

Hafa Adai!

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## 1 passenger tests positive

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
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REPORTER

A passenger from the May 28 United Airlines flight from Guam tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday, raising the CNMI's total confirmed cases from 26 to 27. Also, two patients have recovered, raising the total number of recoveries from 16 to 18.

According to a statement from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and the

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the individual is a 58-year-old male who is asymptomatic, which means he

has no symptoms. The individual is a returning resident  
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### AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, June 7, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	179	0	179
Recovered	162	0	162
Active	12	0	12
Deaths	6*	0	6*

Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	7,463
-------------------------------------	-------

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	26	1	27
Recovered	16	2	18
Active	8	1	7
Deaths	2	0	2

Cumulative Number of Persons Tested**	7,241
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\*Total includes a sailor from the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

\*\*Total includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The CNMI has one new confirmed COVID-19 case, raising the total from 26 to 27. At the same time, two more recoveries recovered, raising the total of recoveries from 16 to 18. Active cases are at 7, with two new recoveries and one new case.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

## CPA to DOT: Exclude Chinese, HK airlines

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Citing the CNMI's ailing economic situation, Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds has asked U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao not to include



King-Hinds

Chinese and Hong Kong airlines from DOT's order disapproving scheduled flights by Chinese airlines going into and out of the CNMI.

In her letter Friday to Chao, King-Hinds highlighted the potential devastating impact of the DOT order on not only CPA but the

See CPA on Page 4

## PPP bill with flexibility for businesses goes to Trump

The 362 businesses and non-profits in the Marianas that have been approved for Paycheck Protection Program loans will have more flexibility in use of the money under terms of legislation the U.S.

Congress has now sent to the President to sign into law.

The House bill, H.R. 7010, passed the Senate on a voice vote Wednesday night, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan

See PPP on Page 4



Two of Friday's protesters re-enact the events that led to George Floyd's death and touched off the Black Lives Matter protests gripping the United States and elsewhere.

KRIZEL TUAZON

## Peaceful BLM protest on Saipan

Several dozen community members of all shapes and sizes and hues of brown, black, yellow, and white and in-between gathered last Friday along the intersection of San Jose and Beach Road for a peaceful demonstration in support of the Black Lives Matter protests in the U.S. mainland and elsewhere.

According to Shawna Brennfleck, who organized the event, "We are here to support the Black Lives Matter movement and we would like the community to be involved in becoming an international movement."

Brennfleck said that Nola Hix, who was born on Saipan but is now living in Guam,

helped organize the event. "She helped with flyers and T-shirts that were given to the first 25 registered," she added.

In a statement issued by his office, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said, "We all have our own rights of freedom of speech, religion, and press."

See BLM on Page 4

### INSIDE



**BUSINESS**  
Hollywood Video is the Connor McLeod of the video rental business on Saipan.

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**NATION**  
Tens of thousands of people march in scenes that were more often festive than tense.

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**WORLD**  
Brazil has stopped publishing a running total of coronavirus deaths and infections.

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## Local

## IPI gives a tour of completed presidential suites

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Gold-plated toothbrushes, gold-plated shavers, gold-plated water faucets, a custom-made mosaic pattern on the floor, a baby grand piano, an infinity pool, and a spa room. These are among the many luxurious amenities that a VIP guest will “soon” find and enjoy at the two completed presidential suites of the Imperial Palace Resort in western Garapan.

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC management officials, led by IPI’s mother company’s chair/executive director Cui Li Jie, toured reporters Thursday in one of two completed presidential suites on the east wing of the resort.

Construction of 14 VIP suites, including the two presidential suites, have already been completed since September or October last year. Each of the two presidential suites is over 6,000 square feet.

Construction of the presidential villa, which is a duplex type, is ongoing. IPI described it as basically a house as it offers pretty much of every-



The 800-square-foot infinity pool.

PHOTOS BY FERDIE DE LA TORRE

thing—a gaming room, sauna, dining room, bathroom, and other amenities.

Last Thursday’s tour of the presidential suite showed that it has a living room and dining room, with combined floor space of 1,750 square feet.

A baby grand piano sits ready for playing in the living room, where guests may also relax or hang out and have a drink at a mini bar, or watch TV.

In the dining room, a table, which is made of marble, can

accommodate 12 people. The marble floor in the two rooms is decorated with all hand- and custom-made mosaic pattern done by specialized Italian workers.

The infinity pool is one-of-a-kind and measures about 800 square feet.

If the guest wants to sing, a karaoke entertainment system with over 100-inch flat screen TV is available.

To relax, there is a spa room with two hydraulic beds, a shower, and a toilet. To sweat

it out, the suite offers a gym.

If the guest wants to have a private conversation or a meeting, it has a study room.

With a butler’s pantry, service is 24-7.

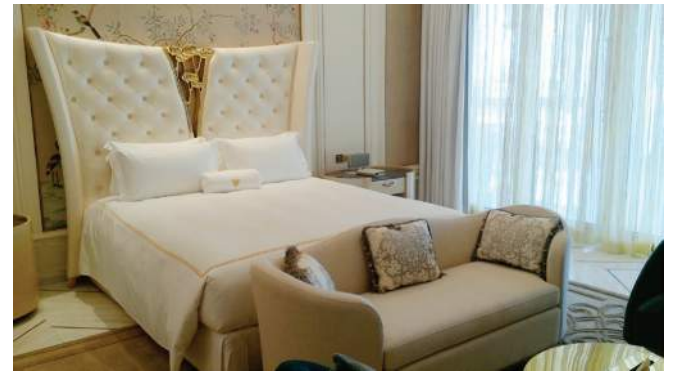
Everything in the powder room—even the faucet—is gold-plated. A walk-in closet measures 300 square feet.

The presidential suite has one master bedroom and one guest room. The wallpaper in these rooms are made of leather and not paper. The designs are all custom and hand-made.

In the bathroom of the master’s bedroom is an oversized bathtub, a toilet, a shower, and a feature wall.

The Department of Public Works gave IPI occupancy permits back in September and October 2019 for the 14 suites, including the two presidential suites.

The resort hotel has two interconnected buildings—the east and north wings. The



The master bedroom.

east wing is where the two presidential suites are located, while the standard suites are in the north wing.

An IPI official said they got the DPW occupancy permit last September, but that they were taking time making minor adjustments.

As far as amenities are concerned, everything is now ready for guests, another IPI official said.

“There is no other hotel like this. In our website we advertise it as an 8-star luxury hotel,” the official said.

Jie, who is the chairwoman and executive director of parent company Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd., posed for photos but did not issue a statement to the media.

Based on the casino licensing agreement, the entire casino-resort project is supposed to be completed by Feb. 28, 2021. IPI’s plan is to build a total of 344 rooms, including the 14 suites and one villa.

When asked when the suites are going to open, the official replied “soon.”

IPI has been the news lately, but not because of the 8-star hotel they’re constructing but rather due to their financial woes, with contractors suing them left and right for alleged non-payment. There’s even an investigation by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the U.S. Treasury Department for suspected violations of the Bank Secrecy Act.



Cui Li Jie, chairwoman and executive director of the Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd., poses before a baby grand piano.

## OAG files formal charge against Zajradhara

The Office of the Attorney General has dropped two possible charges against Zaji O. Zajradhara and has only formally charged him with disturbing the peace in the case involving his wife.

Assistant attorney general Brin K. Toolan filed last Wednesday the information charging the 57-year-old Zajradhara with disturbing the peace in relation to his arrest for allegedly calling his wife lazy and hitting her on the forehead in China Town.

According to Toolan, on May 25, 2020, on Saipan, Zajradhara hit his wife with a towel or his hand. During a hearing at the Supreme Court courtroom last Wednesday, the defendant, who appeared with assistant public defender Vina Seelam, waived his right to a preliminary hearing.

The wife, through the Office of the Attorney General

and the victim advocate, and Zajradhara requested to lift the order requiring him to stay away from her while the case is pending.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted the request. Arraignment will be on June 15 at 9am.

Police said the wife was crying while carrying her baby when police officers responded to the house last May 25. The wife was taken to the hospital after she complained of dizziness and pain in the head.

Zajradhara was arrested that same day initially on charges of assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace.

According to police detective Eugene Dillay, when the officers arrived at the apartment, Zajradhara told them that he accidentally hit his wife with a towel. The wife told police that she and Zajradhara were arguing and that

he had grabbed a towel and hit her in the forehead with it.

Last year, Rep. Janet U. Maratita (R-Saipan) and five other lawmakers introduced a House resolution declaring Zajradhara persona non-grata in the CNMI.

Maratita said Zajradhara, formerly known as Steven Carl Farmer, maliciously filed numerous labor claims against various businesses in the CNMI and expressed violent and threatening nature to such businesses and employees of the CNMI Department of Labor.

The lawmaker also said that Zajradhara was convicted in Wisconsin of receiving/concealing stolen property in 1995 and domestic assault in 1997, and was deported from Japan for violating Japan’s Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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# Torres on OT issue: These are disaster hours

By IVA MAURIN  
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REPORTER

Minority leader Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) expressed disappointment Friday following reports of Cabinet officials submitting requests for overtime authorizations despite the furlough of government employees.

In April, in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Civil Service Commission's Office of Personnel Management furloughed employees to reduce government personnel costs by half. It was also deemed "necessary to be terminate" all excepted service employees, other than those federally funded or exempted by the governor.

Last week, a leaked CSC document showed a request and authorization for 41 hours of overtime work for Public Safety Commissioner Robert A. Guerrero, for COVID-19 safety and security operations, signed by the governor.

"After all the illegal overtime that was paid out after Super Typhoon Yutu, with all the abuses that occurred, so much so that over \$10 million of overtime that was paid for by local taxpayer dollars was never reimbursed by [Federal Emergency Management Agency], the illegal overtime continues to happen, and this time it is under another disaster, COVID-19," Propst said.

The lawmaker, citing the CNMI experience during Yutu where "some Cabinet members received up to \$36,000 in overtime," said that provisions of the Compensation and Work Schedules and the

Compensation of Certain Appointed Officials make it unlawful for Cabinet officials to receive overtime pay.

Propst also stressed that it is inexcusable to claim overtime for hours when the officials should be normally working, and that those earning much higher salaries than front-line workers are expected to work extra hours.

## 'Employees first'

Responding to this, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that it is not just Guerrero's request that he signed, but all of the Cabinet members.

"It's not just DPS. I signed all of the Cabinet [members'] overtime. Those are overtime hours worked. I wanted to make sure that their hours are also calculated, and it is only right for me to make sure that their hours are signed and calculated," he said.

No payment has been paid yet, as according to the governor, as they want to make sure that lower ranked employees get paid first. FEMA also has yet to approve whether those overtime requests are covered under the reimbursable funds.

"There's a lot of employees that work on this COVID-19. Whether those overtime [hours] are covered under FEMA is yet to be approved by FEMA, and that's why [in the case of] the overtime [of] Cabinet [members], we want to make sure that all our employees who's worked overtime are justified for re-

imbursements first, before moving forward to the Cabinet members," he said.

With FEMA rules and regulations governing COVID-19 operations, employees are asked to justify their scope of work, line of duty, and hours worked. Employees worked varying hours in different sites addressing issues, especially for the first 60 days, where work was done 24/7.

As for Cabinet members,

Torres said that "when teams are getting heated up," they go to Cabinet members who are responsible in ensuring their departments are run right.

"They work the hours, they're there constantly making sure that their officers, their employees are doing right and they do work, so they should be paid and they should be calculated on the hours put," he added.

## 'They're there to work'

In a message to everyone, including government employ-

ees who have been furloughed and claiming and calling out the government for unfairness, Torres explained that all those requesting for overtime authorization are working disaster hours.

"They shouldn't be discouraged because the work that has been put into this COVID[-19], these are disaster hours. ... Again, none of them are being paid now, but their hours are being calculated, which rightfully so," he said.

"When you prioritize health care and actions and work needs to be done, those

employees, whether they're Cabinet members or first responders, when work needs to be done, they're there to work. So it's only right that their hours are calculated, whether they're Cabinet members, or someone from [the Department of Public Works] that are at [the Saipan International Airport] doing community based testing or other work," the governor added.

"I'm sorry that we are where we're at, that our economy is shut down from COVID[-19], that there's no tourists coming in, but that's out of our hands. We can't do anything about it," he added.



Torres

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# NMC has one of its largest graduating class

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

Despite the unprecedented crisis the CNMI is currently facing, the

Northern Marianas College held a virtual commemoration for one of its largest graduating class with over 200 degrees conferred.

Although NMC postponed its

in-person graduation ceremony until later in December, the college commemorated the achievement of its graduates this past weekend by releasing a video comprised of the

graduates' photos, the degrees and honors that they earned, and messages from local leaders.

NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico said this graduating class has been through so many disasters but they have risen above it. "This has class been through it all. You name it, super typhoons, economic hardships, and now a pandemic and while the NMC Class of 2020 has seen unprecedented challenges and disasters, the graduates have risen above all of that, above anything that they've been asked to confront, and they faced these head on, with courage, with passion, with grit and with untiring determination," he said.

NMC Board of Regents chair Charles Cepeda thanked the gradu-

ates for being an inspiration to other students and to the community. "Graduating from college is a big achievement. Many of the graduates overcame challenges along the way, including Super Typhoon Yutu and COVID-19," he said.

The associate degrees awarded were in Business, Liberal Arts, Business Administration (Account, Business Management or Computer Applications Emphasis), Criminal Justice, Hospitality Management, Natural Resource Management, and Nursing.

The bachelor degrees awarded were in Business Management (or business management with accounting concentration), and in Education (with emphasis in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Rehabilitation and Human Services, or Special Education).

## BLM

From Page 1

I congratulate them for speaking out on their beliefs, and I hope that all those that are out to support this movement, they do it peacefully."

Civil right activist Ambrose Bennett, who is a former teacher representative on the CNMI Board of Education and joined the protest last Friday afternoon, said the grassroots effort in the CNMI is "fantastic."

"It is great that the local people are coming out and recognizing what is happening to America. Even though it never happens here, there is always a potential for it to happen..." he said. "We didn't just come here for George Floyd but because many people who had been killed like George Floyd, were never treated equally and looked equally."

Floyd died on May 25 in Min-

neapolis after a white police officer pressed his knee on Floyd's neck until he stopped breathing. The officer was fired and charged with murder.

Delegate Gregorio Kili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who was also at the protest, said, "I stand for justice. ... We need to act and start doing what we need to do as citizens to ensure there is justice, peace, and love in the community. I hope this is the [starting] point to where things turn around for the better and if this is not it, we need to act more," he said.

Former House representative Cinta Kaipat was also there to support the movement and expressed the need to step up and speak out. "Black Lives Matter. We are in the same boat and we should support this important cause," she said.

A young child at the protest said, "I feel bad for the people that have to suffer through all of this. It just isn't fair. The police shouldn't be do-

ing any of this. It is not right. They should be doing things that are right, but instead they are turning around and doing the wrong things. This makes me feel angry."

Also present during the peaceful BLM protest were House minority leader Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan). Friday afternoon's protesters came with placards that showed their support for racial equality and against police brutality and apathy. Motorist also showed their support by honking their horns while passing by the protest grounds, which was more festive than tense.

The protest rally got started with just Zoe Travis doing a one-person demonstration last Monday along the intersection of San Jose and Beach Road, promising to devote one hour of her time every morning until last Friday to hold up a placard that says "Black Lives Matter." (*Chevy Alipio*)

## TESTS

From Page 1

and was placed under the mandatory quarantine when he arrived on island last May 28.

This was a result of the contact tracing when a 30-year-old female, who was asymptomatic, tested positive last June 2. The 30-year-old female and the 58-year-old male were both on the same flight. The 58-year-old male was identified for additional testing. His specimen was collected and confirmed positive at the CHCC laboratory yesterday.

"Our recent cases, identified through the arrival screening and quarantine process required for all incoming international passengers, highlights the value of this border containment effort. Combined with immediate contact tracing, these interventions are key in minimizing the spread of exposure for COVID-19 to the community," said the task force

statement.

The CNMI Community Vulnerability Level remains at Yellow. This is because, despite these additional COVID-19 cases, there have been a greater number of negative results, according to the COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

"We would like to encourage the community to continue to be cautious while in public settings. You can reduce your chances of being infected or spreading COVID-19 through the precautionary measures," said the task force statement.

At the same time that the additional case popped up, two more individuals have recovered from the virus.

The news of the additional positive result comes on the heels of three new people testing positive for the coronavirus last Thursday. A 39-year-old woman tested positive through the community-based testing at Saipan airport and it remains unknown how she contracted the virus. In the afternoon of the same day, a 56-year-old

woman and a 15-year-old female also tested positive for the coronavirus. Both were passengers on a United Airlines flight from Guam on May 30 that originated from the U.S. mainland. All three cases are asymptomatic and are being monitored in isolation at the Kanoa Resort Alternative Care Site.

The CNMI now has a total of 27 cases of COVID-19, including seven active cases, 18 recoveries, and two deaths since March 28.

### COVID-19 in Guam

The Department of Public Health and Social Services tested 89 individuals for COVID-19 last June 6. Zero tested positive and 89 tested negative.

According to the Joint Information Center in Guam, results also include 70 samples from COVID-19 drive-thru testing held at the Sinajana Mayor's Office last June 5.

To date, Guam has 179 confirmed cases, with five deaths, 162 released from isolation, and 12 active cases.

## PPP

From Page 1

(Ind-MP) said, after earlier attempts by Republican Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin to block the bill.

In the House the vote was almost unanimous, 417 to 1.

"The \$35,679,198 that Marianas businesses and nonprofits are receiving through the Paycheck Protection Program will help them pay their employees, rent, utilities, and other costs. The money will circulate through the Marianas economy, which is good for everyone, and keep those businesses alive through the coronavirus crisis," Sablan said.

The Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act makes the money more helpful by stretching out the time when it can be used, expanding what it can be spent for, and giv-

ing more time for repayment, if the loan is not converted to a grant. PPP loans can be completely forgiven, if borrowers meet certain program requirements.

Originally the PPP loan period was for eight weeks. But it is now clear the economy in the Marianas and nationwide will not quickly snap back. So the Flexibility Act expands the time in which the money must be used to 24 weeks.

The Act also removes a requirement, imposed by the Trump administration, that no more than 25% of a PPP loan can be used for fixed costs. Now businesses will be able to spend 40% of the money for rent, utilities, and other ongoing expenses. The other 60% must go to payroll.

Many of the PPP loans are expected to be converted to outright grants from the federal government, if requirements like the new 60-40

rule are met. In the event that the loan does have to be repaid, the Flexibility Act extends the payback time from one year to five years, another acknowledgement of the economic hardship the coronavirus is causing.

The Paycheck Protection Program has proven popular with struggling businesses nationwide. It was established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security, CARES, Act in March with \$350 billion in funding. That money was quickly used up, however, and Congress responded with an additional \$310 billion in April. Currently there remains over \$100 billion that businesses and nonprofit organizations may still apply for.

Information about how to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program is available at <https://www.sba.gov/document/sba-form-2483-paycheck-protection-program-borrower-application-form>. (*PR*)

## CPA

From Page 1

entire CNMI economy.

"I cannot overemphasize the fact that the resumption of flights is critical to the economic sustainability of both CPA and the CNMI," she said on behalf of CPA and the CNMI government.

She noted that both Chinese and Hong Kong air service carriers generate 45% of CPA's aviation revenues and 26% of CPA's total revenues. These airlines include Beijing Capital Airlines Co. Ltd., China Eastern Airlines Corp. Ltd., Sichuan Airlines Co. Ltd., Hong Kong Express Airways Ltd., and Hong Kong Airlines Ltd.

Last Wednesday, DOT ordered the suspension of all flights by Chinese airlines into and out of the U.S. after Beijing failed to allow American carriers to resume services to China. DOT's action takes effect June 16. That may still change though. Reuters reported over the weekend that DOT plans to issue a revised order in the coming days that is likely to allow some Chinese passenger airlines to continue flight services.

When asked for comment about this development, King-Hinds said over the weekend that they heard such reports but that they have not seen anything official.

In her letter to Chao, King-Hinds said CPA revenues are needed for the agency to meet its financial obligations, including its federal obligations under the CARES Act as well as its obligations under its Airport Revenue Bonds Indenture. CPA received \$22.75 million from the "Grants-in-Aid for Airports" fund under the CARES Act. As a condition to receiving these funds, CPA is required to continue to employ at least 90% of the number of individuals employed as of the date of the enactment the CARES Act.

King-Hinds pointed out that if Chinese and Hong Kong air carriers do not operate in the CNMI, CPA will likely need to lay off or furlough more than 10% of its employees. She added that CPA's Airport Revenue Bonds Indenture requires that CPA maintain a certain minimum debt service ratio.

"Without the revenues generated

by Chinese and Hong Kong air carriers' operations, CPA will be in serious risk of breaching that obligation," King-Hinds said.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, CPA has experienced a dramatic reduction in visitor arrivals from China, Korea, and Japan. King-Hinds said these declines have already led to a drastic and immediate decline in airport revenues. This has forced CPA to employ austerity measures, such as the reduction of work hours to 64 hours bi-weekly. She expressed concern that this DOT order will only exacerbate CPA's and the CNMI's ailing economic situation.

King-Hinds asked Chao for assistance in preventing further economic distress and to clarify DOT's order. She said this order will be effectuated by requiring all the affected Chinese carriers to reduce their level of scheduled passenger frequencies to zero.

Prior to the suspension of international flights at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport due to COVID-19, Sichuan Airlines Co. Ltd. operated "scheduled charter" flights, she said, which means that Sichuan Airlines followed a set schedule, provided an established number of flights per week to the CNMI, and individual passengers did not directly book tickets for these flights but rather obtained tickets through tour companies or travel agencies.

King-Hinds wants Chao to clarify whether DOT's order will prohibit Sichuan Airlines Co. Ltd. and other Chinese carriers from operating these "scheduled charter" flights to the CNMI. She said if these airlines are required to obtain prior approval by DOT, CPA is seeking information regarding the approval process, including whether CPA's and the CNMI's economic need for these carriers to operate will be considered by DOT.

King-Hinds also asked for clarity as to whether air carriers based in Hong Kong are also affected.

DOT said in a statement last Wednesday that U.S. carriers have asked the Chinese government to be allowed to resume passenger service beginning June 1, and that the Chinese government's failure to approve their requests is a violation of their Air Transport Agreement.



# PSS looking for funds to give incentives to support staff

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REPORTER

The Public School System is working on identifying extra funding to provide incentive checks for support staff who were not included under the Project Restart grant.

According to PSS acting director of Finance Kimo Rosario, PSS will immediately

pay its support staff as soon as PSS identifies funding. However, PSS is prioritizing the retirement of this fiscal year’s deficit before tackling the incentive for support staff.

“That matter is still on the table; it’s just a matter of identifying funds. The priority right now is to retire the deficit and make sure we have enough money to augment the next fis-

cal year budget. It would make no sense for us to give out an incentive award, only to subject employees to furloughs, pay cuts, or worse, layoffs, because we don’t have the money to pay them,” he said.

Tim Thornburgh, PSS Federal Programs manager, said Project Restart took care of all teachers, instructors, teacher aides, as well as principals and

vice principals, with each one receiving over \$2,000.

Board of Education member Andrew Orsini said PSS needs to find the funding to provide other support staff with an incentive because it is only fair. “I stand in fairness for all our staff, no exception to the rule. I think we need to do something because there are funding now available and I think we really

need to look closely and provide an incentive for all support staff like what was given to all the teachers and instructional people,” he said.

Orsini added that, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, PSS staff who were not covered by Project Restart need this kind of incentive more than ever. “If there is funding, we can work to provide this to our deserving people. Even though at this point in time we’re going through

this pandemic, it doesn’t mean we’re going to leave out our support staff,” he said.

BOE vice chair Herman Atalig echoed Orsini’s sentiment, adding that all PSS staff must be treated similarly, so if teachers received an incentive, so should all other personnel. “I want to echo the same sentiment. I think it’s just fair to treat everyone the same and the lowest-paid people are suffering more than anyone else,” he said.

# CPA board chair: No to BIG’s plan to build barracks for a live casino training facility

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds strongly objects to Bridge Investment Group’s reported plan to build an 80-room barracks for use in the scheduled opening this September of a live casino training facility on Tinian.

King-Hinds also disclosed at a CPA board committees’ meeting last Wednesday that CPA legal counsel Robert T. Torres is currently looking into the sewer line issue at the dock on Tinian.

BIG is building the Tinian Ocean View Resort & Casino. In March 2019, BIG and Wyndham Hotel Group held a hotel management signing ceremony for the Wyndham

Hotel brand to create a Tinian five-star luxury hotel.

King-Hinds pointed out that it’s an EB-5 project and one of the reasons for supporting the project is because of the job opportunities it will provide. Yet if BIG is intending to build a barracks, she sees that as BIG having no intent to hire residents. She said there have been reports that BIG is looking to build an 80-room barracks on Tinian. “That’s a concern to me and I think we should go, or I would personally like to go on record stating strong objection to it,” she said.

King-Hinds said the whole purpose of having a live training facility is that the developer can train local residents to run a casino.

She said she wants it to be put on the record as a matter of

## » King-Hinds also asks CPA counsel to look into sewer line issue

discussion so that when people look back in history, they would know that the CPA board took those concern seriously.

CPA board Seaport Facilities Committee chair Pete P. Reyes joined King-Hinds in her objection, saying he also feels that just the mere presence of the barracks for 80 employees is a sign that BIG is not hiring local residents and that he objects to that.

BIG, a real estate developer on Tinian, created the American Northern Marianas Regional Center in order to promote economic growth, improve regional productivity, create U.S. jobs, and secure financing for real estate development projects.

On the sewer line matter, King-Hinds said many members of the community have raised with her their concern as it relates to BIG’s project on Tinian, specifically the sewer system that they have been permitted for. She said CPA legal counsel Robert T. Torres is looking into that issue.

Torres said the sewer line issue at the Tinian dock with respect to the tenant is that they have to have a septic system in place. Torres said CPA is now reviewing BIG’s Coastal Resources Management’s major site permit. Torres said they are assessing the issue of the lease with respect to the facility and the capacity of the septic system and their transfer of

the waste. The lawyer said the impact on the waterfront is an area of particular concern.

Torres said that news coming out of BIG is that it is planning to go online with casino operations in September 2020. Part of the lease with BIG, he said, is about compliance with the environmental aspects as well as its operation activities—the hotel, the volume of passengers’ impact on the port and their opening plan.

Torres said they are in the process of reviewing with the Tinian port manager the CRM permit, a copy of which CPA had just obtained.


King-Hinds said that what they are getting is that BIG applied for a permit for just a septic tank. King-Hinds said but what BIG had submitted in terms of their application and what they are actually going out and saying in the commu-

nity is that by third quarter that they are going to be opening a live casino training facility. She said the planned live casino training facility is very similar with what people saw here at Duty Free on Saipan with Best Sunshine.

“If you’ve been to Tinian, the port is directly adjacent to Jones Beach, which is clearly the heart of the community. That’s where the community has social gatherings, that’s where people go fishing, and it’s commonly used,” King-Hinds said.

She said if there is a sewage seeping into the water to the beach, it would amount to destroying that whole coastline in front of Tinian.

“I want to be on top of that. I want the contractor and the tenant to address that situation, even if they require that we take legal action,” she added.




## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

### Office of the Executive Director

# INVITATION FOR BID

## CUC-IFB-20-022

### S-5 AND S-9 SEWER LIFT STATION RENOVATION



The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the S-5 and S-9 Sewer Lift Station Renovation project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of the renovation of the existing S-5 and S-9 sewer lift stations, including the renovation of the existing generator building and wet well with all new piping, fittings, pumps, generator, and other equipment and appurtenance. The project also includes the installation of a new S-5 forcemain and forcemain inlet structure, the relocation of the existing Hyatt Hotel sewer forcemain to an existing sewer manhole on Coral Tree Avenue, the installation of a new S-9 upstream sewer manhole and gravity main crossing route 308. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the sewer system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 300 calendar days from date of award of contract.

**The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.**

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **June 18, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST** be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-IFB-20-022, S-5 and S-9 Sewer Lift Station Renovation”** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) July 2, 2020, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time.

Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.


This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 22, 2020** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water & Wastewater, Engineer – nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

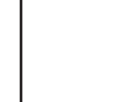
# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

## RFQ20-GOV-076

### ASSESSMENT& DESIGN OF THE FIRE ALARM AND FIRE SPRINKLER/PROTECTION SYSTEM at the DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS in SUSUPE, SAIPAN



Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lieutenant Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Capital Improvement Program, (collectively, “Commonwealth”) is soliciting sealed proposals from Qualified Engineers to provide engineering services for the assessment and design of the Fire Alarm and Fire Sprinkler/Protection System at the Department of Corrections in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant Funding under the Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and submittal requirements at the Office of Management & Budget, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or request electronic mail (attn.: Nerissa Benavente at nerissa.cip@gmail.com) beginning June 16, 2020, during working hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday through Thursday, except on holidays). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the scope of work and submittal requirements.

Selection of individuals or firms for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations §7070-30.3-305. To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable

Statement of Qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification (Personnel, Education and Professional Licenses)	30 points
2. Experiences (similar projects)	40 points
3. Project Approach	15 points
4. Workload and Resources	15 points

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked **“RFQ20-GOV-076, DESIGN FOR A FIRE ALARM AND FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, SAIPAN.”** For proposers within the CNMI, one (1) original, one (1) hard copy AND ONE (1) PDF ELECTRONIC COPY (Electronic copy must be in a flash drive) and must be submitted to the Acting Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, **no later than 9:00 a.m., July 8, 2020.** Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to propose must be received by the Acting Director of Procurement and Supply **no later than 9:00 a.m., ChST, on July 8, 2020** and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [a.magofna@dof.gov.mp](mailto:a.magofna@dof.gov.mp). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original, one (1) hard copy AND ONE (1) PDF ELECTRONIC COPY (Electronic copy must be in a flash drive) must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country **no later than July 08, 2020, and mailed to the Acting Director of Procurement and Supply to P.O. Box 510008 C.K., Saipan MP, 96950** and must be received by the Acting Director of Procurement and Supply by **no later than July 17, 2020.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

**BREACH OF ETHICAL STANDARDS**  
(To be part of Solicitation for Quotes, ITBs and RFPs)

- **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefore. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(a).
- **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of subcontractor or order. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(b)
- **Contingent Fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-730.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

Ralph DLG. Torres  
Governor

Francisco C. Agoun  
Acting Director, Procurement & Supply



# Comments sought on Navy impact statement on bombings, trainings

**ASAN, Guam**—The U.S. Navy has completed a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing at-sea and Farallon de Medinilla military training and testing activities within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing EIS/OEIS Study Area, or the “study area.” Proposed activities are generally consistent with previously analyzed activities and are similar to those that have occurred in the study area for decades.

In the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated previous environmental analyses as

appropriate. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS supports the Navy’s request for federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

## Proposed action

The Proposed Action is to continue at-sea training and testing activities within the study area. These activities include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing mitigation measures. The need for the Proposed Action is to ensure the Navy, other U.S. military services, and the U.S. Coast Guard meet their respective missions, which for the Navy is to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Continue at-sea training and testing activities at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.

- Incorporate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The study area remains unchanged and includes the existing Mariana Islands

Range Complex, additional ocean areas outside of the MIRC, a transit corridor between the MIRC and the Hawaii Range Complex, and Navy piers located in Apra Harbor. Other activities and land components associated with

the MIRC (except FDM) are not considered in the supplement because they have not appreciably changed and remain covered under the 2015 analysis and associated authorizations.

## Availability of the final supplemental EIS/OEIS

In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act regulations, the Navy will wait 30 days after publication of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS before making a final decision on the action. The Final Supplemental

EIS/OEIS will be available to the public on the project website, [www.MITT-EIS.com](http://www.MITT-EIS.com), beginning June 5, 2020. Copies of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS have also been sent to the following public libraries and are available depending on COVID-19 conditions regulating

access to public facilities. Check with libraries regarding hours of operation and the availability of the document.

## GUAM

Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library University of Guam  
UOG Station  
Mangilao, GU 96923  
Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library  
254 Martyr St.  
Hagåtña, GU 96910

## SAIPAN

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library  
Beach Road, Saipan

## TINIAN

Tinian Public Library  
San Jose Village, Tinian

## ROTA

Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library, Rota

If you would like additional information, visit [www.MITT-EIS.com](http://www.MITT-EIS.com) or contact:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific  
Attention: MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager  
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100  
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134 (PR)

## SSA offers services via online or phone calls

The Social Security Administration continues to provide services to the public through its online services and phone services, but is unable to accept in-person visitors to local offices at this time.

On Saipan, the Social Security Administration office is located at the MH II Building, Suite 201 at the Marina Heights Business Park but is closed to the public for in-person service.

To contact, call 1-855-616-6449; TTY: 1-800-325-0778; Fax: 1-833-902-2610. A field office representative is available to take calls Monday through Friday, from 8am to 3pm.

If you are requesting a new, replacement or corrected Social Security Card, complete

an application and mail it to your local Social Security office with the required documents. All documents submitted must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. SSA cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies. All documents must be current (not expired). Social Security will return the original documents as soon as possible. If original documents or copies certified by the issuing agency are not provided, the application will be denied and a new application will be required with original documents.

For more information regarding Economic Impact Payments, visit the IRS at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). (PR)

## DMS promotion ceremony

Dandan Middle School will hold its annual promotion ceremony on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 9am on the DMS Facebook Page. In addition, the school will have a Grab-and-Go promotional certificate distribution on Wednesday,

June 10, from 1pm to 3pm for its 8th grade students.

Report cards for the 6th and 7th Grades can be picked-up at the main office from June 11 to 12, from 9am to 3pm. Please wear face masks and practice social distancing upon arrival. (PR)

## Muña reconfirmed as Civil Service commissioner

The CNMI Senate confirmed Thursday the reappointment of Civil Service Commission board chair Raymond Muña to the commission. He will serve for four years.

Muña’s confirmation came with a barrage of concerns requiring urgent solutions, including furloughs that could introduce more cases to CSC, and the need for a Hearing Officer to close down all the current cases that the commission has yet to resolve.

Serving a second term and having been in the commission for 18 months, Muña welcomes the challenges ahead, and commits to do his best to look out for government employees in the CNMI. He identified furloughs as an outstanding concern, as he renews his service with CSC. “This is really new for all of us...and

decisions have to be made to in order for the CNMI government to be sustained and the issues brought up. Of course it requires further attention, so as a commissioner for a Civil Service Commission for the for the CNMI, I’m really doing my best to look on how we can better our employees, our furloughed employees,” he added.

During the Senate session, Senate vice president Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) reminded Muña to pay attention to the mandates of Public Law 17-80, or the Civil Service Act, as well as the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations. “We are here to work with you, if there is a need for legislation to amend P.L. 17-80, or to come up with other corrective measures to assist our workforce that are

being ‘let go’ because of the current situation that is upon us,” Hofschneider added.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) also advised Muña to ‘take seriously’ the points raised in the Senate committee report regarding his appointment, particularly raising concern on the lack of Hearing Officer that has led to people’s cases not being attended to. During the public hearing for Muña’s appointment, a private citizen who has been waiting for the resolution of his case, appealed before the Senate for help.

Muña said in a later interview that the CSC has now identified a person who could hear the cases, and that there are currently six pending cases, with the commission “almost there to close those cases.” Civil service employees who feel aggrieved may file

a formal grievance with the commission. For those who have been furloughed, Muña advises them to consider furthering their education.

“Don’t lose out on hope. Right now, at this point, I recommend that they try and enhance their education and go attend the Northern Marianas College because it’s open and they’re ready to accept any student or employee in furthering their education,” he said. “Let’s just be hopeful and maybe in two years, the economy will be back to normal. Let’s say they graduate with that degree they’ve always dreamed of, it’s a win-win. [They can] either return to the job that they were furloughed from, or start a new job, but with the education background that could assist them in the long run.” (Iva Maurin)



**NORTHERN MARIANAS  
HOUSING CORPORATION**

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

OPENING DATE: June 1, 2020 CLOSING DATE: June 16, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2020-004	CDBG-DR Planning & Support Program Manager	UNGRADED \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00-per annum
2020-005	CDBG-DR Project Manager	UNGRADED \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00-per annum

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays. You may also access the application online at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office; Email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net); Drop-off application at the NMHC Drop Box located in front of the NMHC building.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/  
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director



**Notice of Availability of the  
Mariana Islands  
Training and Testing  
Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS**

The U.S. Navy has completed a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing training and testing activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) EIS/OEIS Study Area. The completion of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS follows years of research, analysis, stakeholder engagement, and public involvement.

**Proposed Action**

The Navy is proposing to continue training and testing activities within the Study Area at sea and on Farallon de Medinilla. Proposed activities are generally consistent with previously analyzed activities and are similar to those that have occurred in the Study Area for decades.

The Proposed Action is needed to ensure the Navy, other U.S. military services, and the U.S. Coast Guard meet their respective missions, which for the Navy is to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas.

**Public Involvement**

The Navy is committed to keeping the public informed. The Navy obtained public input at several stages and held four public meetings throughout the Mariana Islands. The Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS includes responses to public comments received during the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS public review and comment period. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act regulations, Navy will wait 30 days after publication of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS before making a final decision on the action.

**Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS**

The Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS is available to the public beginning June 5, 2020. You can access the document in several ways:

- Visit [www.MITT-EIS.com](http://www.MITT-EIS.com)
- Contact: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific  
Attention: MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager  
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100  
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134
- View the document at these locations:


University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Tinian Public Library, or Rota Public Library. Please check with libraries regarding hours of operation and the availability of the document.

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION**

Coconut Scanning Services, Inc.  
A CNMI Corporation,  
was dissolved on April 30, 2020.  
Any creditor and person with an outstanding claim against the corporation is requested to notify the corporate office within 30 days of the date of the last publication.

Coconut Scanning Services, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5525  
Saipan, MP 96950

The Management



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**

**ITB NO.: ITB20-DCCA/CCDF-074**

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 01, 2020 10:00 A.M.

**“PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS “I” VEHICLE (A) AND ONE (1) CLASS “F” VEHICLE (B) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*\*MUST USE A FACE MASK BEFORE ENTERING THE OFFICE\*\***

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIA SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER  
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



# Navy carrier sidelined by virus is back operating in Pacific

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Ten long weeks after a massive coronavirus outbreak sidelined one of the Navy's signature warships, the U.S.S. *Theodore Roosevelt* has returned to sea and is conducting military operations in the Pacific region.

Lining the flight deck in their dress white uniforms, sailors wearing white face masks stood a virus-safe 10 feet (3 meters) apart in a final, formal thank you as the ship sailed out of port in Guam on Thursday and headed into the Philippine Sea.

"We manned the rail, which we don't normally do. There was a lot of symbolism in that," Navy Capt. Carlos Sardiello told The Associated Press in an interview from the ship Thursday. "They're excited. They're fired up to be back at sea doing the mission."

The *Roosevelt* pulled into Guam on March 27, with a rapidly escalating number of sailors testing positive for the virus. Over time, more than 1,000 were infected with COVID-19, setting off a lengthy and systematic process to move about 4,000 sailors ashore for quarantine and treatment, while about 800 remained aboard to protect and run the high-tech systems, including the nuclear reactors that run the vessel.

Slowly, sailors were methodically brought back on board, while the others who had remained went ashore for their mandated two-week quarantine. And in late March, the ship with only about 3,000 crew aboard went out to sea for roughly two weeks of training, including the recertification of the flight deck and fighter squadron, such as takeoffs and landings on the carrier.

Earlier this week, the *Roosevelt* wrapped up training and returned to Guam to pick up nearly 1,000 sailors who had been left there to either complete their quarantine or to manage and work with those still on the island. As the ship sailed into the port, it was flying a flag with the words



"Don't Give Up the Ship," a famous Navy battle cry from the War of 1812.

"Our sailors didn't give up the ship. They fought and got it back. So I thought it was appropriate," said Sardiello, who asked one of the other Navy ships to borrow their flag. "The ship was clean and the ship was healthy with no COVID cases. So I said, OK, we're going to fly that one time on the way into Guam as a symbol to bolster their morale."

RS1 Katie VanDrimmelen was one of the sailors left ashore during the two-week training. She had tested positive for the virus and was

in quarantine for about five weeks. Walking back onto the ship, she said, was like being welcomed home from a deployment.

"It was amazing," said VanDrimmelen, of Ogden, Utah. "It was very comforting to be back in our normal atmosphere. Everybody was happy."

Sardiello said that watching the sailors board the ship was a great feeling. But he knows he's not done yet. There are still about 350 sailors on Guam who are either in isolation or are there as support staff.

"More and more of those sailors are meeting the return-to-work criteria, and we're fly-

ing them on board every single day. So we're whittling down that number day by day," said Sardiello. "But I really want those 350 remaining back. And we're working hard on that."

He said that any sailors who don't recover in time will be transported back to the U.S. The ship is expected to continue op-

erations in the Pacific, and then would likely head home to San Diego later this summer.

The *Roosevelt* has been at the center of a still unresolved controversy that led to the firing of the ship's previous captain, the resignation of the Navy secretary and an expanded investigation into what

AP  
In this June 4, 2020, photo provided by the U.S. Navy, the aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* departs Apra Harbor in Guam.

triggered the outbreak and how well top naval commanders handled it.

Sardiello, had previously captained the *Roosevelt* but was abruptly sent back to the ship in early April to take command after Capt. Brett Crozier was fired for urging his commanders to take faster action to stem the virus outbreak onboard.

After a preliminary review last month, Adm. Mike Gilday, the Navy's top officer, recommended that Crozier be reinstated as ship captain. But the Navy decided to conduct the broader investigation.

That review, which effectively delays a decision on Crozier's reinstatement, was finished and submitted to Gilday at the end of March and he is still reviewing the extensive report, which includes several hundred pages of interviews, documents and recommendations.

Cmdr. Nate Christensen, spokesman for Gilday, said it will take time for the admiral to finish his review and make any decisions.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 20-037

Opening Date: June 1, 2020  
Closing Date: June 12, 2020

#### Engineer

**DUTIES:** Under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Position is assigned to both routine and simple water and sewer facilities and projects. Duties and responsibilities include: Perform field measurements for distance, elevation, flows, pressures and other elements related to water and sewer system designs, including configuration of water/sewer facilities, utilizing surveying equipment and GIS system; Design size and length of water mains, capacity (pumping rate and head) of booster stations, size, slope, and distance of sewer gravity mains and force mains, size, pumping capacity, and liquid level control of Lift stations; Design drawings to portray facilities to be constructed based on completed design and specification preparation for water systems and water sources, transmission and distribution pipelines and storage tank, including wastewater systems and facilities sewer lines, sewer pumping stations and treatment plants. Writes reports for engineering feasibility analysis, evaluations, such as water and wastewater flow, well production, water loss, electrical consumption, system hydraulics. Prepare scopes of work for a variety of A&E consultant services related to existing and proposed water and sewer systems; Analysis of water system operation performance by pressure zone; Operations support such as review of operating mode and system configuration, water leaks detection, repairs and recovery of water loss. Responsible for overseeing the engineering aspect of the water and wastewater system operations modifications, maintenance and repairs; and Perform other related engineering duties as assigned.

**LOCATION :** Water & Wastewater Engineering Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.  
**SALARY :** \$40,084.00 to \$54, 113.00 per annum, Exempt  
**POSITIONS :** Two (2) years, subject to renewal  
**CONTRACT :** One (1)

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering and four years of related engineering experience. Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering is also acceptable if candidate has four years of experience engineering water and/or wastewater systems. **Knowledge of:** Engineering principles and practices; mathematical, pumping and hydraulics, and wastewater conveyance and treatment concepts; project management principles; construction techniques; safe work practices; applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations. **Skill in:** Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; reading, understanding, and preparing drawings for construction contracts; preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; interpreting and preparing specifications; estimating construction costs; conducting studies. Able to use computers and related software applications; communicate, interact with co-workers, supervisor, contractors, representatives of other agencies and departments, and the general public to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction; use AutoCAD to prepare plans for utility projects and contracts is a plus. Registration as an Engineer-In-Training in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is preferred but not required. Applicants licensed as a Professional Engineer in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is encouraged to apply. Applicants may be subject to pre-employment testing. You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

## SPACE FOR RENT

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wushin2@pticom.com for more inquiry.

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COURTROOM 220A )  
CALENDAR FOR ) SUA SPONTE  
THURSDAY, ) ORDER  
MAY 14, 2020 )

**FOR GOOD CAUSE**, because of the CNMI Supreme Court COVID Order No. 2 (Effective April 4, 2020 to June 5, 2020) issued on April 1, 2020, the following cases that are currently set for May 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. before Judge Joseph N. Camacho are moved to **June 18, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** All parties are ordered to appear.

CASE NO.	PARTIES	TYPE OF HEARING
20-0090CV	Estate of Wendy Victoria Wolcott	Letters of Administration

Per the Probate Rules, the Petitioner must again publish the notice in the newspaper as to the Letters of Administration.

**SO ORDERED** this 2nd day of April 2020.

/s/  
**JOSEPH N. CAMACHO**, Associate Judge

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(3) Maintenance /  
Maintenance Technician -**  
Preferably knowledgeable  
in carpentry, electrical,  
mechanical  
and plumbing repairs.

Submit Applications To:  
**AYD SERVICES, INC.**  
AYD Compound, Beach Road,  
San Antonio Village,  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel.# 235-7011



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XXX, Issue No. 112Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### When the powerful say nothing in the face of injustice, they are giving their consent

This week, *The Atlantic* published a stunning critique of President Donald Trump by retired Gen. Jim “Mad Dog” Mattis warning against a militarized response to the nationwide civil rights protests of recent days and calling the president a threat to the Constitution. “Never did I dream,” he wrote, that troops would be called on to “violate the Constitutional rights of their fellow citizens” for the sake of a “bizarre photo op,” a Bible-hefting stunt in front of historic St. John’s Church in Washington, D.C.

Decorated U.S. Marine generals don’t commonly speak out so forcefully against their former commander in chief. Nor do ex-Cabinet secretaries. Mattis is both, but he is also a man who, apparently, can only swallow so much outrageous behavior and social injustice. These are not normal circumstances. This is not a normal presidency. The pandemic makes this an abnormal time generally. And the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in Minneapolis makes this a critically important time for redressing one of the nation’s most long-standing grievances, the right of people of color not to be abused, not to be tortured and killed, not to be treated as lesser citizens.

Under these dire conditions, the burden of speaking truth to power, to calling out gross transgressions, to objecting to institutional racism falls not just to those directly hurt by these crimes but most especially by those who are in a position to do something about them. Our elected leaders don’t have to bemoan every injustice that happens, but the death of Floyd, a horrific murder captured on videotape, is something extraordinary. It has provided a moment of moral clarity for the nation. In this death, we can see decades of unequal treatment, of brutalization, of disparity, of callous disregard for a person based on skin color alone.

Even President Trump has observed that something wrong has happened. He just can’t bring himself to doing something meaningful about it, to challenge racial discrimination, for example, or perhaps condemn his past flirtations with white supremacists or decry police brutality. But we surely could not have expected enlightenment from the birther president. What we should expect is that he won’t make things much worse. At least current (meaning not yet fired) Defense Secretary Mark Esper has spoken out against active duty military to quell domestic protests unlike his boss. Good on him, but where are Senate Republicans named Lisa Murkowski? Or do they all fall in line behind the vile Tom Cotton, who this week penned a New York Times op-ed taking the opposite view? The nation deserves to know.

Admittedly, there are many institutions where dissent is discouraged. You speak out and you are branded a troublemaker or worse. You see it in politics. You see it in police departments. You see it in many walks of life. But then there are those mo-

See **WHEN** on Next Page

## CNMI long term resident status

On June 25, 2019, H.R. 559, The Northern Mariana Islands Long-Term Legal Residents Relief Act, became Public Law 116-24. The bill was introduced in January 2019 by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, the CNMI’s representative in the U.S. Congress, but in reality it was a much longer time in the making. In 2008, when the law that eventually brought the immigration authority of the United States into the CNMI was being drafted, it originally included a provision to grant resident status to long term foreign workers in the CNMI. We expected that the federalization of immigration would have three distinct and necessary elements: (1) federal control of immigration; (2) increase in the minimum wage; and (3) status for long term alien workers. The element of status for long term alien workers was based on two grounds: the desire to retain stability in the CNMI workforce and the recognition of the contributions of foreign workers to the economic development of the CNMI. Unfortunately, as the result of compromises that are a necessary evil of the political process, the status for long term alien workers was negotiated out of the bill that became the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-229, 122 Stat. 754).

Now, more than a decade after federalization, we have such a law. As with any piece of legislation that creates a right or a privilege, in this instance an immigration benefit, there are requirements and limitations. We summarize these below.

### Who is eligible for CNMI long term resident, or LTR, status? The two doors

To determine eligibility, we think of an applicant as having to pass through two doors. To pass through **Door No.1**, you must fall into **one** of six classes:

1. Stateless—born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978;
2. Immediate Relatives of Stateless – spouses and unmarried children under 21;
3. CNMI Permanent Resident on Nov. 27, 2009 (class closed in 1985, very few left);
4. IRs of Permanent Residents – spouses and unmarried children under 21 (unlikely to be children);
5. IRs of U.S. citizens – parent, spouse or child of any age; relationship must have existed on Nov. 27, 2011, and continued to the present;
6. In-home caregivers – must have had Caregiver Parole on Dec. 31, 2018.

To pass through **Door No. 2**, you must qualify under **every one** of the following four conditions:

1. Lawfully present in the CNMI (including parole or deferred action) on either Dec. 31, 2018, or June 25, 2019;
2. Be admissible as an immigrant;
3. Resided continuously and lawfully in the CNMI from Nov.

## IMMIGRATION FORUM

By **MAYA KARA** and **BRUCE MAILMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

28, 2009, through June 25, 2019;

4. Not a citizen of the Marshalls, the FSM, or Palau.

### I fit through both doors. How do I apply for CNMI LTR status?

To implement the new law, USCIS has created a new form I-955, Application for CNMI Long-Term Resident Status (<https://www.uscis.gov/i-955>). This form must be filled out and filed together with Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization (<https://www.uscis.gov/i-765>). There is no filing fee for Form I-955; the filing fee for Form I-765 is \$410 plus a biometrics fee of \$85. You must file Form I-765, together with Form I-955, even if you do not intend to work. An application that does not include both forms will be rejected.

### What evidence do I need to apply for CNMI LTR status?

Please be aware that the application for CNMI LTR status is very document intensive. Whether or not you qualify as a member of one of the six designated classes is fairly straightforward. We usually include identity documents for the applicant (passport, EAD, driver’s license, etc.) and proof of membership in the relevant class. So that gets you through Door No. 1.

Door No. 2 is a bit more demanding. Of the six possible classes, we will only discuss the “IRs of U.S. citizens category,” since this is the class with the most members. We will discuss each requirement in turn:

**1. Immediate Relative of a U.S. citizen:** This category includes spouses, parents, and children of any age, provided that relationship existed on Nov. 27, 2011, and continues to the present. Spouses and parents of adult U.S. citizens are eligible for

See **CNMI** on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Trumpty Dumpty Tweeter Tales 2020 Vision

*"The only thing the 2016 election of Trump clearly proved is that, under a rare set of circumstances, an unprincipled, deceitful, vulgar, cruel, vindictive and inarticulate person (who also can't spell) can become president of the U.S."*

—Steve Danning, letter in the *Las Vegas Review Journal* 2020.

## Elections: Selection Rejection Dejection

Can you decide who is the best among billionaires are you impressed with their rhetoric and ideology or are you just looking for someone who truly cares voting for their policies on immigration and ecology what is of foremost importance in your final picking from their campaign speeches what ideas are sticking how much credence do you give to outside influence a happy medium of personal and partisan congruence as early primaries disappoint do you vote or not vote do you feel you're defeated or elated the morning after that your dreams may be realized or your dreams dead

## WHEN

From Page 8

ments of truth when honorable people must recognize that enough is enough. We have already seen it from police chiefs who condemn the Minneapolis Four. We have witnessed it from Sen. Murkowski, the Alaska Republican who on Thursday praised Gen. Mattis' rebuke as "true and honest and necessary." We have heard it from some Republican governors willing to break ranks with President Trump on National Guard deployment. We need more, many more, to stand up to this out-of-control administration.

Speaking out, condemning the brutal murder of Floyd, recognizing racial disparities and the right of Americans to decry them, and pledging to do something meaningful about these inequities, those are the actions that are going to resolve the nation's unfortunate circumstances much faster than using military force on our own people like some tin-pot dictator looking to embellish his tough guy reputation. To paraphrase the nation's foremost civil rights leader, it's not the words of our enemies that we will carry to our graves, it's the failure of decent people to break their silence.

(c) 2020 *The Baltimore Sun*

## CNMI

From Page 8

U.S. Permanent Residence ("green card") and are unlikely to seek CNMI LTR status. Most applicants under this category will be parents of U.S. citizen children (born in the CNMI) before Nov. 28, 2011, but not old enough to sponsor their parents for green cards; we will discuss this sub-category only. To prove this element you will need to provide a certified birth certificate for your child, showing you as one of the parents, plus as many of the following as you can manage:

- Child's passport (if any);
- Baptismal certificate (showing you as one of the parents);
- School records showing you as guardian of the child;
- Vaccination records showing you as guardian of the child;
- Medical records, showing you as guardian of the child;
- Tax returns showing you claimed the child as a dependent
- Family photos showing you and the child at different ages;
- Anything else that shows the relationship.

**2. Lawfully present in the CNMI (including parole or deferred action) on either Dec. 31, 2018, or June 25, 2019:** This element is fairly easy to prove, you were either in the CNMI on either of those dates or not, and either in lawful status or not. Some possible evidence would be:

- Your passport showing your last entry prior to the relevant date;
- Pay stubs showing you were working in the CNMI on that date;
- Rental receipt for the relevant month;
- USCIS documents (parole, CW approval, receipt of an application and the like) that cover the relevant date.
- I-94 (if you do not have a physical copy, you can download it from the CBP website, (<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home>))

**3. Be admissible as an immigrant:** This requirement is focused mostly on whether you have any criminal history and if

as progressives and conservatives swirl inside your head were the multi billionaires able to buy their last hurrah this time was it worth the trouble and whole brouhaha.

## Premise Conclusion Delusion Illusion

A false syllogism limerick trilogy of half-truths and lies.

When bigly dyed Trump became POTUS his thousands of lies shrunk his scrotus daily communiques transmitted by tweet poorly written contain repeat after repeat and a bipolar message be sure to vote US.

From his campaign and year after year to date he sealed his reputation and hyperbolic fate wearing a red hat slogan that read MAGA proved he didn't understand our American saga it always was, still is, and will always be great.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# The passing of Richard Jones: Adios Richard

Although Faythe, I, and other family members of Richard are thousands of miles away and travel is so restricted even for those in Guam, we will all be there in spirit to comfort and support our family and friends in celebrating the life that Richard lived.

Richard and his loving wife, Faye, have been together for about 50 years and what a time it has been, and Saipan has been home for them for almost four decades.

During that half a century of the life of Richard, he had a tapestry of experiences, adventure, travel, and the love of family and friends.

It is with a deep sense of sorrow and gratitude that we relay this message today.

The sorrow is because we have lost an exceptional friend and family member who was dear to those who loved and cared for him.

His treasure chest of experiences, knowledge and warmth for

you do, whether the crime you were convicted of would render you "inadmissible." What you will need to do is get clearances from the CNMI Superior Court; the U.S. District Court and a traffic clearance. If you have no criminal record, you are probably good to go. If you do have a record, you must disclose it. This includes DUI and reckless driving. You will need to get certified court documents including the Information; the Plea Agreement (if any); the Judgment/Conviction; and probation clearance (if any). The conjunction of criminal law and immigration law is complex; if you do have any kind of criminal record, you would be well served to consult a professional.

**4. Resided continuously and lawfully in the CNMI from Nov. 28, 2009, through June 25, 2019:** This is probably the most burdensome element of the requirements. You need to prove both that you were present in the CNMI for a period of almost 10 years and that you were in status during that time. Please note that short absences from the CNMI (such as vacation, medical or family emergency) will not disrupt your "continued presence." Possible evidence includes those required for No. 2, above and then some:

- Your passport showing entry and departure from the CNMI;
- CNMI Entry Permit (if it extended past Nov. 28 2009);
- Umbrella permit;
- Pay stubs showing you were working in the CNMI;
- USCIS documents (parole, CW approval, receipt of an application, EADs; Forms I-94, and the like);
- Employment verifications;
- Tax returns;
- Rental receipts;
- Utility and telephone bills;
- Social security contributions printout;
- Medical and dental records;
- Vehicle registration, ownership and insurance;
- U.S. citizen children's birth, school, vaccination and medi-

## LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Joey aka Pepe Batbon is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.*

Daily weekly monthly narcissistic manifestation notifying FBI, DOJ, and media across the nation his former staff cabinet nation and world learned how much they've been deceived lied to and burned there is to be no criticism of him in any situation.

others has touched many, and hence, our gratefulness for having had the opportunity to be in his world for many years.

Many words come to mind when we think of Richard, but a few stand out for us, which are fortitude, meaning the strength of mind and character that allows one to endure pain or adversity with courage. His fortitude was in full display, having encountered an illness for the last few years and yet maintained a good and positive disposition, despite being in severe discomfort and a loss of his mobility.

The other words that come to mind are honesty and integrity, which was an inherent part of Richard's character, which we have seen expressed on many occasions.

When talking to Amber, our daughter, he would ask: What is the most important day of the year? He taught her at an early age that it was May 26, his birthday. And here we are only a few days after what would have been his 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

Richard passed away on May 11, in his bed at his home with his loving wife Faye.

He will be missed by many and his family, friends, and others can all take solace

by being a part of his world, and with the memories and legacy that can, and will, for sure be remembered.

**David and Faythe Wiseman**

via email

cal records;

■ Banking records (will need letter from the bank showing how long you've had the account);

■ Marital records for the relevant period, if you got married or divorced between the relevant dates in the CNMI.

Again, you need not produce every one of these documents, but the more evidence you submit, the better your chances of approval.

**5. Not a citizen of the Marshalls, the FSM or Palau:** A copy of the photo page of your current home country passport will suffice.






## Filing deadline

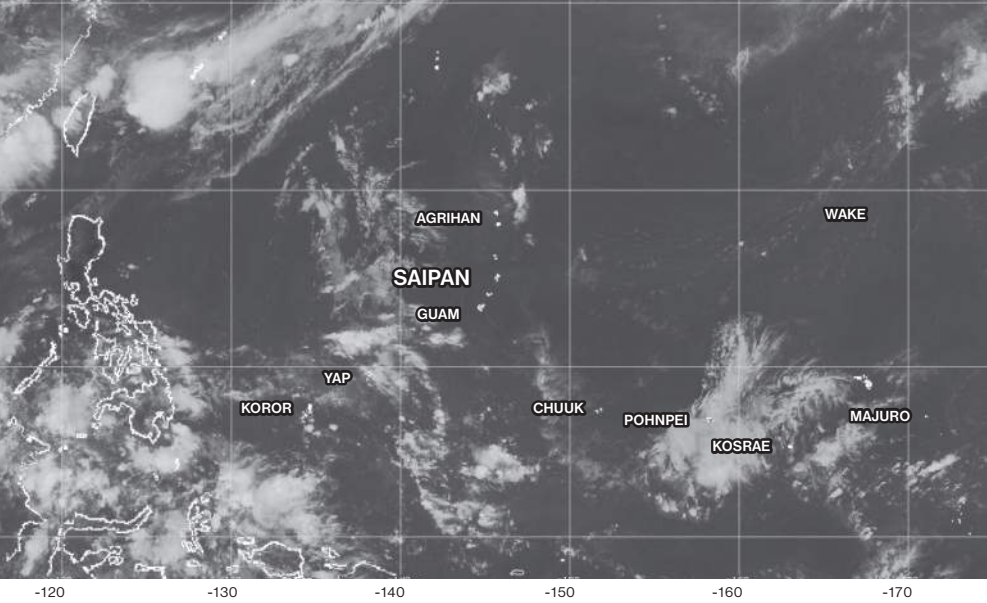
The filing deadline for applying for CNMI LTR status is Aug. 17, 2020. Please remember, the deadline refers to the date USCIS must receive your application, not the date you mail it. We recommend use of a courier service such as DHL, FedEx, etc., as the fastest way to send documents to USCIS. If you use the U.S. Postal Service, mail your application at least two weeks before the deadline, by either Certified Mail or Priority Mail (return receipt requested) and a tracking number. If things go wrong, you may have to prove your mailing; a certified receipt will give you that evidence. If you have a tracking number, you can and should, track your item's progress. And always, when filing anything with the government, keep a complete copy of everything that you send.

*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding immigration issues to the authors by email to [bmailman@pticom.com](mailto:bmailman@pticom.com) or [roninsaipan@gmail.com](mailto:roninsaipan@gmail.com). Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com).*



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
90°	79°	90°	79°	89°	79°	89°	79°	89°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 7:17 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2020**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows partly cloudy skies across the Marianas. Andersen Air Force Base Weather Surveillance Doppler Weather Radar WSR-88D shows no showers. Buoys indicate combined seas are 3 to 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)


## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

able, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors



CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

- ### Continue good hand hygiene

  - Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
  - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

- ### Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

  - Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
    - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
    - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not avail-

### Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:47 AM	9:14 PM
Tuesday	-	8:45 AM	10:06 PM
Wednesday	-	9:41 AM	10:53 PM
Thursday	-	10:34 AM	11:36 PM
Friday	-	11:25 AM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Windy	61° / 48°	
Beijing	Sunny	91° / 64°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 74°	
London	Rain	63° / 52°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	73° / 61°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	97° / 81°	
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	61° / 48°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	81° / 63°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	77° / 66°	
Paris	Rain	66° / 52°	
Busan	Rain	73° / 61°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	84° / 64°	
Salem	Thunderstorms	81° / 69°	
San Francisco	Windy	64° / 56°	
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	82° / 61°	
Tokyo	Rain	79° / 64°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	82° / 66°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:44 AM	LOW TIDE	1.42	
8:14 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.05	
3:47 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.30	
11:07 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.08	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	1, 4, 6	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	1, 4, 6
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
1301.2	9:00	9:35	Tues/Fri	1207 13:00 13:15 Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
3101.2	10:00	10:30	Tues/Fri	1208 14:00 14:15 Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO GUAM				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	1209 15:00 15:15 Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	1210 16:00 16:15 Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	1211 17:00 17:15 Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	1212 18:00 18:15 Temporarily Unavailable
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable	
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable	

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

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# Business

## Hollywood Video: There can only be one



Hollywood Video is located in As Lito and is open from 12pm to 6pm daily.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By **MARK RABAGO**  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Hollywood Video is the Connor McLeod of the video rental business on Saipan. And if you don't get that, you haven't watched '80s popcorn epic *The Highlander*.

After a brief closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the only remaining video rental shop on island is back. Hollywood Video owner Bernard Gaffney said he was forced to shutter temporarily last March 29 to comply with the government's measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Since reopening last month, Gaffney said sales at Hollywood Video have been surprisingly brisk.

"We have a sale on DVDs,

Blu-ray, and older games. We were most likely the only place to get controllers for game systems since we were closed when the run on these things happened, then our reopening with stock on these items helped business out," he said.

Sales on the meat-and-potatoes of Hollywood Videos' operations, however, remain lukewarm. "Business has been slow as far as rentals are concerned, but I think that's because we are behind schedule on new releases. We cancelled all our orders for the month of April and May until we decided to reopen, then we had to reorder movies again. It has taken three weeks to start catching up," said Gaffney.

Hollywood Video has been in business on Saipan for more

than 18 years; at one point it operated three branches on island. It originally opened in March 1992 in Kagman 1. Then later that year another location in As Lito was opened. In 1994, the Kagman 1 location was transferred to San Jose (then transferred to Chalan Kanoa) and in 1996 Hollywood Video opened a third branch in Garapan.

Gaffney said 1997 was the start of the golden age of video rentals on island as "things started to take off."

In 2004 Hollywood Video opened another Kagman location (since closed). Super Typhoon Yutu then destroyed its Chalan Kanoa location in 2018. Hollywood Video then had to move its Garapan location from Middle Road to

Beach Road, which shuttered in October 2019 due to staffing woes.

Hollywood Video has weathered the ebb and flow of the CNMI economy and even overcame the arrival of a mainland-based video rental giant. "Ten years ago business itself was good, but started slowly declining as people started downloading illegal copies from the internet. Blockbuster [Video] charged a huge amount for their rentals and people still went there (never could figure that out), but I outlasted all of them," said Gaffney, adding that he actually bought all of Blockbuster's fixtures when they closed.

He worries, though, that the addition of a new cable company and faster internet



Hollywood Video's new releases.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hollywood Video has installed a Plexiglas divider between customers and staff, 6-foot social distancing stickers on the floors, and disinfects rental items with alcohol spray on return.

will pretty much "drive the last nail in the coffin" as far as the video rental industry is concerned. "Hulu and Netflix are just a couple of the offerings and you also have Amazon, CBS, and a host of others. But people don't realize how much they are paying for second- and third-run movies. And if you want to watch a new movie you need to rent that from them also, they're not free, usually between \$3.99 and \$6.99, when you can come down to your local video store, and get the same rental for \$2.75," he said.

Currently, Hollywood Video only has one location open—in As Lito—and Gaffney said the location has undergone minor refits to cope with the new normal brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. "We have installed a Plexiglas divider between customers and staff, 6-foot social distancing stickers on the floors, and the disinfection of rental items with alcohol spray on return," he said.

As far as popular video rental titles go, Gaffney said it used to be action movies that are rented the most and most likely still are, but what's new always goes first.

Currently, Hollywood Video has a sale on previously viewed DVDs for \$1.50 a pop or 10 for \$9.99. Blu-ray discs can also be had to \$4.99 each or 10 for \$39.99. Games, any format, are \$19.99.

Before renewing your Netflix, Hulu, or HBO Max subscription, residents should first consider renting from Hollywood Video, Gaffney said, as it's actually cheaper on a movie-by-movie basis to go to your local video store. "Instead of giving your money to a global conglomerate and having it leave the island, the money you spend on local business gets spent here and helps the local economy. Our employees live here, buy food here, pay rent here, go to the laundromat here, eat in local restaurants, and pay taxes here."

You can probably even rent *The Highlander*, where McLeod uttered his famous line, "There can be only one"—a phrase Gaffney and Hollywood Video know better than anyone else.

Hollywood Video is located in As Lito and is open from 12pm to 6pm daily. For more information, call (670) 288-1254 or visit them on their Facebook page.

## Government job losses are piling up, and it could get worse

Jobs with state and city governments are usually a source of stability in the U.S. economy, but the financial devastation wrought by the coronavirus pandemic has forced cuts that will reduce public services—from schools to trash pickup.

Even as the U.S. added some jobs in May, the number of people employed by fed-

eral, state and local governments dropped by 585,000. The overall job losses among public workers have reached more than 1.5 million since March, according to seasonally adjusted federal jobs data released Friday. The number of government employees is now the lowest it's been since 2001, and most of the cuts are

at the local level.

"With that comes a decline in essential public services," Lee Saunders, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, said on a conference call with reporters this week. For instance, "911 calls are taking a long time to be answered."

Clean drinking water and

trash pickups also are being affected in some places, he said.

Tax revenue from businesses walloped by coronavirus restrictions has plummeted, forcing cuts by cities and states that rely on that money. It's likely to get worse in the coming months unless Congress delivers additional aid to states and cities.

## OPEC, allied nations extend nearly 10M barrel cut by a month

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)**—OPEC and allied nations agreed Saturday to extend a production cut of nearly 10 million barrels of oil a day through the end of July, hoping to encourage stability in energy markets hard hit by the coronavirus-induced global economic crisis.

Ministers of the cartel and outside nations led by Russia met via video conference

to adopt the measure, aimed at cutting the excess production depressing prices as global aviation remains largely grounded due to the pandemic. The curbed output represents some 10% of the world's overall supply.

But danger still lurks for the market, even as a number of nations ease virus-related lockdowns, and enforcing compliance remains thorny.

Algerian Oil Minister Mo-

hamed Arkab, the current OPEC president, warned meeting attendees that the global oil inventory would soar to 1.5 billion barrels by the mid-point of this year.

"Despite the progress to date, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels," Arkab said. "The challenges we face remain daunting."

That was a message echoed by Saudi Oil Minister Ab-

dulaziz bin Salman, who acknowledged "we all have made sacrifices to make it where we are today." He said he remained shocked by the day in April when U.S. oil futures plunged below zero.

"There are encouraging signs we are over the worst," he said.

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak similarly called April "the worst month in history" for the global oil market.



# Nation

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)**—SpaceX's debut astronaut launch is the biggest, most visible opening shot yet in NASA's grand plan for commercializing Earth's backyard.

Amateur astronauts, private space stations, flying factories, out-of-this-world movie sets—this is the future the space agency is striving to shape as it eases out of low-Earth orbit and aims for the moon and Mars.

It doesn't quite reach the fantasized heights of George Jetson and Iron Man, but still promises plenty of thrills.

"I'm still waiting for my personal jetpack. But the future is incredibly exciting," NASA astronaut Kjell Lindgren said the day before SpaceX's historic liftoff.

NASA astronaut Nicole Mann, who will test drive Boeing's space capsule next year, envisions scientists, doctors, poets and reporters lining up for rocket rides.

"I see this as a real possibility," she said. "You're going to see low-Earth orbit open up."

The road to get there has never been so crowded, with Elon Musk's SpaceX company leading the pack.

A week ago, SpaceX became the first private company to send people into orbit, something accomplished by only three countries in nearly 60 years. The flight to the International Space Station returned astronaut launches to the U.S. after nine long years.

"This is hopefully the first step on a journey toward a



## SpaceX opens era of amateur astronauts, cosmic movie sets

This artist's rendering provided by Boeing on Thursday, Aug. 18, 2016 shows the company's Starliner spacecraft.

civilization on Mars," an emotional Musk told journalists following liftoff.

Closer in time and space is SpaceX's involvement in a plan to launch Tom Cruise to the space station to shoot

a movie in another year or so. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine embraces the idea. He wants NASA to be just one of many customers in this new space-traveling era, where private companies own and fly

their own spaceships and sell empty seats.

"Kind of a changing of the guard in how we're going to do human spaceflight in the future," said Mike Sufredini, a former NASA station program manager who now leads Houston's Axiom

Space company.

Axiom has partnered with SpaceX to launch three customers to the space station in fall 2021. An experienced astronaut will accompany them, serving as the commander-slash-tour guide. Two private flights a year are

planned, using completely automated capsules belonging to SpaceX or Boeing, NASA's two commercial crew providers.

The ticket price—which includes 15 weeks of training and more than a week at the space station—is about \$55 million. Besides the three signed up, others have expressed serious interest, Sufredini said.

Since last weekend's successful launch, "everybody's starting to wonder where their place in line is," Sufredini told The Associated Press on Thursday. "That's a really, really cool position to be in now."

Space Adventures Inc. of Vienna, Virginia, also has teamed up with SpaceX. Planned for late next year, this five-day-or-so mission would skip the space station and instead orbit two to three times higher for more sweeping views of Earth. The cost: around \$35 million. It's also advertising rides to the space station via Boeing Starliner and Russian Soyuz capsules.

Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin and Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic are taking it slower and lower with tourist flights. These space-skimming, up-and-down flights will last minutes, not days, and cost a lot less. Hundreds already have reservations with Virgin Galactic.

Branson is the only one of the three billionaires planning to launch himself before putting customers aboard at \$250,000 a pop. His winged rocketship is designed to drop from a customized plane flying over New Mexico.

## Massive, peaceful protests across US demand police reform

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Massive demonstrations against racism and police brutality filled some of the nation's most famous cityscapes Saturday, with tens of thousands of people marching peacefully in scenes that were more often festive than tense.

Wearing masks and urging fundamental change, protesters gathered in dozens of places from coast to coast while mourners in North Carolina waited for hours to glimpse the golden coffin carrying the body of native son George Floyd, the black man whose death at the hands of Minneapolis police has galvanized the expanding movement.

Collectively, it was perhaps the largest one-day mobilization since Floyd died 12 days ago and came as many cities began lifting curfews that authorities imposed following initial spasms of arson, assaults and smash-and-grab raids on businesses. Authori-

ties have softened restrictions as the number of arrests plummeted.

Demonstrations also reached four other continents, ending in clashes in two European cities. In the U.S., Seattle police used flash bang devices and pepper spray to disperse protesters hurling rocks, bottles and explosives, just a day after city leaders temporarily banned one kind of tear gas.

The largest U.S. demonstration appeared to be in Washington, where protesters flooded streets closed to traffic. On a hot, humid day, they gathered at the Capitol, on the National Mall and in neighborhoods. Some turned intersections into dance floors. Tents offered snacks and water.

Pamela Reynolds said she came seeking greater police accountability.

"The laws are protecting them," said the 37-year-old African American teacher. The

changes she wants include a federal ban on police chokeholds and a requirement that officers wear body cameras.

At the White House, which was fortified with new fencing and extra security measures, chants and cheers could be heard in waves. President Donald Trump, who has urged authorities to crack down on unrest, downplayed the demonstration, tweeting: "Much smaller crowd in D.C. than anticipated."

Elsewhere, the backdrops included some of the nation's most famous landmarks. Peaceful marchers filed across the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and the Brooklyn Bridge in New York, where officers pulled back on enforcing a curfew that has led to confrontations. They walked the boulevards of Hollywood and a Nashville, Tennessee, street famous for country music-themed bars and restaurants.

## Amid virus, US students look to colleges closer to home

As students make college plans for the fall, some U.S. universities are seeing surging interest from in-state residents who are looking to stay closer to home amid the coronavirus pandemic.

At the University of Texas at Arlington, commitments from state residents are up 26% over last year. Ohio State and Western Kentucky universities are both up about 20%. Deposits paid to attend Michigan State University are up 15% among state residents, while deposits from others are down 15%.

Colleges and admissions counselors credit the uptick to a range of factors tied to the pandemic. Students want to be closer to home in case an outbreak again forces classes online. Some are choosing nearby schools where they're charged lower rates as state residents. And amid uncertainty around the fall term,

some are paying deposits at multiple schools to keep their options open.

At the same time, scores of universities are bracing for sharp downturns in international enrollments amid visa issues and travel concerns. The result, some schools say, is that campuses will have a more local feel if they're allowed to reopen this fall.

"We are going to be a more regional and local university," Bob McMaster, vice provost of the University of Minnesota, told the school's board of regents at a May meeting. "The spheres of geography have certainly changed this year."

Universities across the U.S. have ramped up recruiting efforts amid fears that the pandemic would spur students to rethink their plans. Schools have accepted more students and reached far deeper into wait lists than in the past.

Some have increased financial aid. And some have focused on recruiting students in their own backyards.

At the University of Minnesota, recruiters shifted attention away from bigger cities to focus on Minnesota, Wisconsin and other nearby states, McMaster said. In May, New Jersey launched a campaign urging students who had left to "come home" for college.

Lisa Gelman, a private admissions counselor with Apt Tutoring in Massachusetts, said many students are rethinking earlier decisions to study far away or in cities that have become virus hot spots, including New York.

For years, Lizzie Quinlivan dreamed of leaving her home in Massachusetts to study at the University of Southern California. In March, she got in. But by then, the virus was spreading across the U.S.



# Asia

## China urges citizens to shun Australia as dispute simmers

**BEIJING (AP)**—China is advising its citizens not to visit Australia, citing racial discrimination and violence against Asians, in what appears to be Beijing's latest attempt to punish the country for advocating an investigation into the coronavirus pandemic.

A notice issued by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism late Friday said there has "been an increase in words and deeds of racial discrimination and acts of violence against Chinese and Asians in Australia, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic."

"The ministry advises Chinese tourists to raise their safety awareness and avoid travelling to Australia," the notice said.

As part of its perceived retaliation, China has already effectively ended imports of Australian barley by putting tariffs of more than 80% on the crop, accusing Australia of breaching World Trade Orga-

nization rules by subsidizing barley production and selling the crop in China at below production costs. That came a week after China banned beef imports from Australia's four largest abattoirs over labeling issues.

Australian Trade Minister Simon Birmingham on Tuesday said the country did not want a trade war, but said China "has made errors of both fact and law" in applying WTO rules, adding that there was no evidence that Australia was engaged in dumping of products.

Australia has been among countries pushing for an international investigation into the origins of the coronavirus pandemic and responses to it. Beijing has denied its measures against Australian beef and barley were related to those calls.

The World Health Organization has bowed to calls from most of its member states to

launch an independent probe into how it managed the international response to the virus, which was first found in China late last year. The evaluation would stop short of looking into contentious issues such as the origins of the virus.

Chinese Ambassador Cheng Jingye's has told Australian media that the country might face a Chinese boycott of its tourism and exports of wine, beef and other goods if the government pressed for a coronavirus inquiry.

China is the No. 1 market for Australian beef, accounting for about 30% of exports. It's also the biggest foreign buyer of Australian barley.

Beijing has regularly used access to its huge market to punish governments from Norway to Canada in political disputes. Chinese officials routinely refuse to confirm a trade disruption is related to a political clash but make it clear Beijing wants concessions.

## North Korea threatens to shut liaison office with South

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—In the latest blow for inter-Korean cooperation, North Korea threatened to permanently shut a liaison office with South Korea as it continued to condemn its rival for failing to prevent activists from sending anti-North Korean leaflets across the border.

The statement by North Korea's ruling Workers' Party late Friday came a day after the powerful sister of leader Kim Jong Un said her country would end a military agreement reached with South Korea in 2018 to reduce tensions if Seoul fails to stop the activists.

Kim Yo Jong also said North Korea could permanently shut the liaison office and a joint factory park in the border town of Kaesong, which have been symbols of reconciliation between the two countries.

Desperate to save a faltering diplomacy, South Korea in response said it would push new laws to ban activists from flying leaflets by balloon to the North, which triggered a debate over freedom of speech.

But an unidentified spokesman of the Workers' Party's United Front Department said Seoul's promise lacked sincerity, and the scrapping of the liaison office will be the first in a series of North Korean steps that would cause extreme suffering for the South.

The statement also confirmed an elevated status for

Kim Yo Jong, who was described as her brother's top official for inter-Korean affairs.

"We do not hide that we have had long in mind decisive measures to fundamentally remove all provocations from the South and to completely shut down and remove all the contact leverage with the (South)," said the spokesman.

Referring to the leaflets, he said the "nonstop disposal of dirty rubbish from the South side has exhausted us so much as to come to a clearer conclusion that enemies are enemies after all ... Our determination is to follow as far as the evil cycle of the confrontation leads."

Seoul had no reaction to the statement Saturday afternoon. In a speech marking South Korea's Memorial Day, President Moon Jae-in vowed to strengthen the nation's defense, but he made no mention of North Korean threats to abandon inter-Korean peace agreements.

Sending balloons across the border has been a common activist tactic for years, but North Korea considers it an attack on its government. Defectors and other activists in recent weeks have used balloons to fly leaflets criticizing Kim Jong Un over his nuclear ambitions and dismal human rights record.

Pyongyang's official Rodong Sinmun on Saturday published several articles and columns expressing contempt

for defectors it says are behind the protests. Its photos showed mass rallies in North Korea where crowds raised their fists beneath signs such as "Death to the human scum defectors."

While Seoul has sometimes sent police officers to block the activists during sensitive times, it had previously resisted North Korea's calls to fully ban them, saying the activists were exercising their freedom.

South Korea's ruling liberal party clinched a resounding victory in April's parliamentary elections, giving it a solid majority to win approval in the National Assembly for legislative restrictions against the leaflet protests.

"It's remarkable how this comes when the Moon government looks to reengage after relative success fighting COVID-19 and the new progressive majority is seated in the National Assembly," said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul.

"Instead, Kim uses his sister, who was special envoy for North Korea's smile diplomacy during the 2018 Winter Olympics, to threaten the minimal foundation that remains of inter-Korean cooperation on which South Korean progressives hope to build."

The liaison office in Kaesong has been closed since late January after the Koreas agreed to temporarily shut it until the coronavirus is controlled.

# World

## AS DATA BEFUDDLES EXPERTS Brazil govt yanks virus death toll

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)**—Brazil's government has stopped publishing a running total of coronavirus deaths and infections in an extraordinary move that critics call an attempt to hide the true toll of the disease in Latin America's largest nation.

The Saturday move came after months of criticism from experts saying Brazil's statistics are woefully deficient, and in some cases manipulated, so it may never be possible to gain a real understanding of the depth of the pandemic in the country.

Brazil's last official numbers showed it had recorded over 34,000 deaths related to the coronavirus, the third-highest number in the world, just ahead of Italy. It reported nearly 615,000 infections, putting it at the second-highest, behind the United States. Brazil, with about 210 million people, is the globe's seventh most populous nation.

On Friday, the federal Health Ministry took down a website that had showed daily, weekly and monthly figures on infections and deaths in Brazilian states. On Saturday, the site returned but the total numbers of infections for states and the nation were



**AP**  
Cemetery workers in protective clothing maneuver the coffin of 57-year-old Paulo Jose da Silva, who died from the new coronavirus, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, June 5, 2020.

no longer there. The site now shows only the numbers for the previous 24 hours.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro tweeted Saturday that disease totals are "not representative" of the country's current situation.

A Bolsonaro ally contended to the newspaper O Globo that at least some states providing figures to the Health Ministry had sent falsified data, implying that they were exaggerating the toll. Carlos Wizard, a businessman expected to assume a high-level post in the Health Ministry, said the federal government would be conducting a review intended to determine a

"more accurate" toll.

"The number we have today is fanciful or manipulated," Wizard said.

A council of state health secretaries said it would fight the changes by Bolsonaro, who has dismissed the gravity of the coronavirus pandemic and tried to thwart attempts to impose quarantines, curfews and social distancing, arguing those steps are causing more damage to the economy than the pandemic.

"The authoritarian, insensitive, inhumane and unethical attempt to make the COVID-19 deaths invisible will not prosper," the health secretaries council said Saturday.

## Pandemic makes for a lonely D-Day observance in Normandy

**COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France (AP)**—At daybreak on Saturday, Charles Shay stood lonesome without any fellow veteran on the very same beach where he waded ashore 76 years ago, part of one of the most epic battles in military history that came to be known as D-Day and turned the tide of World War II.

Compared to last year, when many tens of thousands came to the northern French beaches of Normandy to cheer the dwindling number of veterans and celebrate three-quarters of a century of liberation from Nazi oppression, the coronavirus lockdown turned this year's remembrance into one of the eeriest ever.

"I am very sad now," said Shay, who was a 19-year-old U.S. Army medic when he landed on Omaha Beach under horrific machine-gun fire and shells. "Because of the virus, nobody can be here. I would like to see more of us here," he told The Associated Press.

Normally, 95-year-old Shay would be meeting other

survivors of the 1944 battle and celebrating with locals and dignitaries alike, all not far from his home close to the beaches that defined his life.

"This year, I am one of the very few that is probably here," he said, adding that other U.S. veterans could not fly in because of the pandemic.

When a full moon disappeared over land and the sun rose the other side over the English Channel, there was no customary rumble of columns of vintage jeep and trucks to be heard, roads still so deserted hare sat alongside them.

Still the French would not let this day slip by unnoticed, such is their attachment to some 160,000 soldiers from the United States, Britain, Canada and other countries who spilled their blood to free foreign beaches and fight on to finally defeat Nazism almost one year later.

"It's a June 6 unlike any other," said Philippe Lailier, the mayor of Saint-Laurent-Sur-Mer, who staged a small remembrance around the Omaha Beach monument. "But still we had to do some-

thing. We had to mark it."

The moment the sun broke over the ocean, the Omaha Beach theme from the film "Saving Private Ryan" blared across the sand for a few dozen locals and visitors dressed in vintage clothing.

The pandemic has wreaked havoc across the world, infecting 6.6 million people, killing over 391,000 and devastating economies. It poses a particular threat to the elderly—like the surviving D-Day veterans who are in their late nineties or older.

It has also affected the younger generations who turn out every year to mark the occasion. Most have been barred from traveling to the windswept coasts of Normandy.

The lack of a big international crowd was palpable.

In the afternoon, a flyover of French fighter jets leaving a trail of the national colors was reminiscent of the one U.S. President Donald Trump and his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron watched from Colleville last year. This time, though, only a sparse crowd craned necks upward.



# Health & Wellness

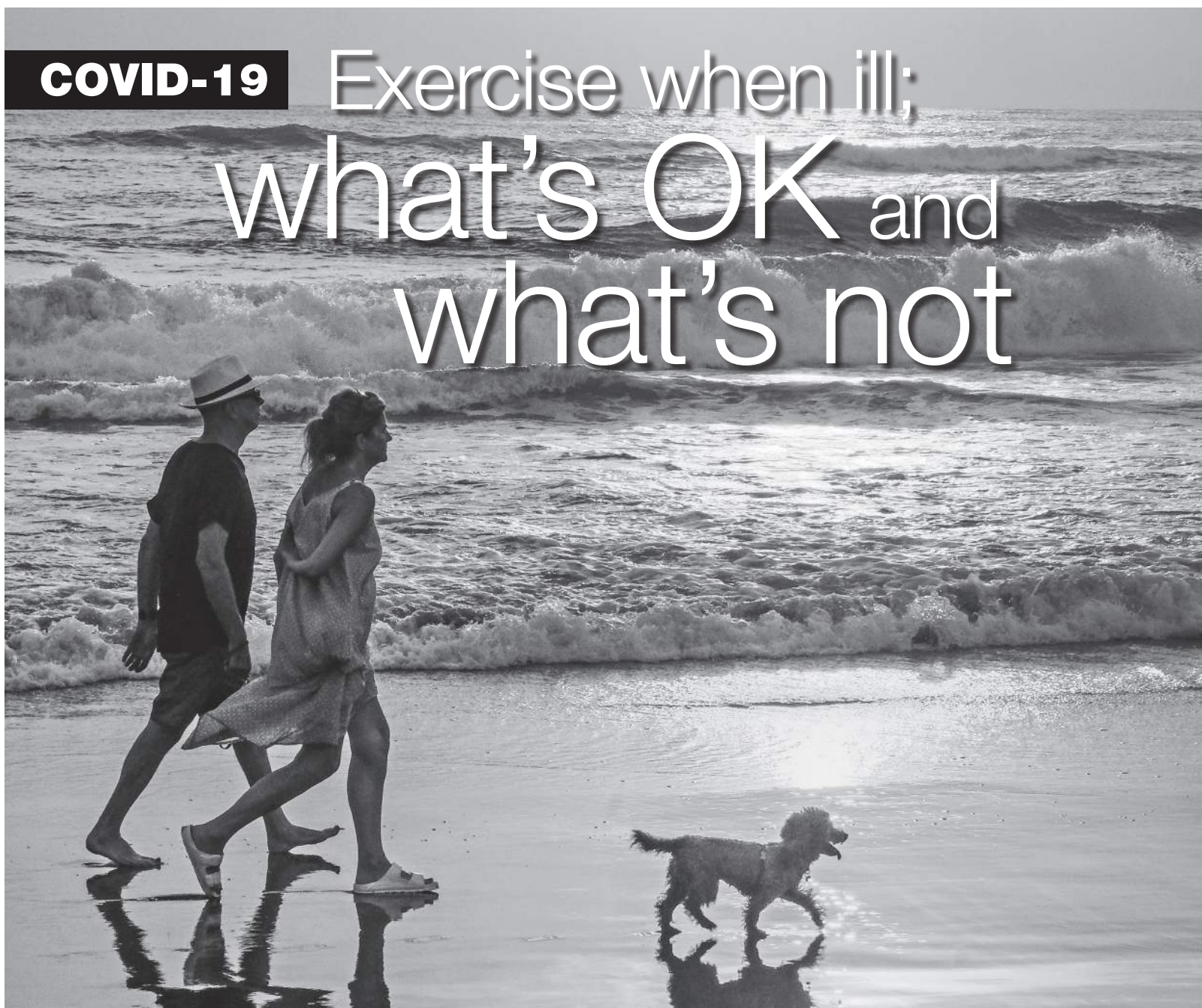
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## COVID-19

# Exercise when ill; what's OK and what's not



## COVID-19 questions answered by a Mayo Clinic expert

There are many questions, misconceptions and concerns as the COVID-19 pandemic response continues. Dr. Gregory Poland, an infectious diseases expert and director of Mayo Clinic's Vaccine Research Group, answered some questions of the day:

### Can drugs, including chloroquine, be used to treat COVID-19?

"There are laboratory reasons to think some of these drugs might work. However, what they require are clinical trials in order to know that for sure. We want to know that any antiviral or drug that we use will help and not harm in the context of this disease."

### Can we use plasma from recovered patients to treat COVID-19?

"Using plasma or human antibodies to treat COVID-19 is an important strategy. It was used in 1918 with the influenza pandemic. Using plasma is a polyclonal approach. There are also laboratory methods by which you can make a monoclonal antibody, and both of those are going to be tried."

### What are misconceptions about COVID-19?

"There are a lot of misconceptions," says Dr. Poland. "Young people don't develop severe disease. That's not true. That hand sanitizer is better than hand-washing. That's not true. And some terrible internet rumors circulating that some people are sucking on disinfectant wipes, gargling with dilute bleach, putting bleach into a cotton plug and putting them into their nose, or doing the same kinds of things to their pets. These are harmful, unhelpful, and (there are) no data to support their use."

### What if a housemate has the virus?

"If you have someone in your home that you know is infected with this virus, or has symptoms compatible with it, they get their own room, ideally with an open window. They stay in that room unless they come out with a mask and others are not in close proximity. You don't have meals together. And the surfaces of anything they touch need to be regularly disinfected." (Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)

Exercise is important for a healthy body and mind, but if you're feeling under the weather, you may wonder what's OK to tackle or if you should hang up your sneakers. Dr. Daniel Montero, a Mayo Clinic sports medicine physician, offers some advice for when to exercise.

"Exercise is medicine. If you have symptoms above the neck, things like runny nose, sneezing, of the common cold, such as nasal congestion or runny nose, or minor sore throat, you're OK to exercise," says Dr. Montero. "Exercise may

even help you feel better by opening up your nasal passages, for instance. But you may want to reduce the intensity and length of your workout, and limit group activities," he says. Instead of running, for instance, go for a walk.

"Any amount of exercise has benefits," says Dr. Montero.

If you have a fever; body aches; fatigue; or other symptoms, such as a stomachache or hacking cough, Dr. Montero says it's best to stick with bed rest for a few days until your symptoms subside.

"We recommend you postpone exercise if you have symptoms 'below the neck,' such as chest congest-

ion, hacking cough and upset stomach. And if you have a fever, it's best to give your body a few days to rest and recovery," he says. "A fever is your body's way of telling you slow down and it's important to listen to your body."

As you recover, go a bit slower when returning to exercise.

With current recommendations for social distancing around COVID-19, you may want consider skipping the gym and taking your workout outdoors. Regardless of where you exercise—at a gym or at home—don't forget to wipe off equipment, including bikes, weights, benches and yoga mats.

And make sure you are saying attuned to your body's need for fluid. "Drink to thirst, but be aware if it's warm outside. You may need to take in more fluid," says Dr. Montero. Talk with your health provider if you have concerns or experience additional pain or symptoms when you exercise. Exercise guidelines call for 150 minutes of exercise a week. (Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)

Check the CDC website for additional updates on COVID-19. For more information and all your COVID-19 coverage, go to the Mayo Clinic News Network and [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org).

## Leave your reusable grocery bag at home in coronavirus pandemic, some markets tell customers

By ANDREW SHEELER  
THE SACRAMENTO BEE

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Californians four years ago voted to ban single-use plastic bags, moving to protect the environment by doing away with the oil-based products that too often wound up in gutters and waterways.

Today, the coronavirus pandemic has those good intentions on hold.

The flimsy plastic bags are not back in stores, yet. But some California grocery stores are asking customers not to bring the re-usable bags that replaced the light, single-use plastics after the ban took effect.

They're trying to protect their employees from contracting the new

coronavirus by asking workers only to handle paper bags and heavy plastic bags provided by the stores. The grocery stores effectively are back to single-use bags.

"We're doing everything we can to keep our stores sanitized and safe," said Ron Fong, president and CEO of the California Grocers Association. "First and foremost, we're trying to keep our employees and customers safe."

Fong said he didn't have a list of stores that are banning reusable bags, but that the decision to do so is being made on a store-by-store basis.

So far in Sacramento, at least the Natural Foods Co-Op and Nugget have asked customers not bring reusable bags. The union that represents grocery

store workers also wants grocery customers not to bring re-usable bags.

Grocery store workers are on "the front line of danger" from COVID-19, said John Grant, president of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 770.

"Cashiers and clerks have a limited amount of personal protective equipment as it is," Grant said.

Restricting the use of reusable grocery bags, which Grant said his group supports, will help protect not only grocery store employees but also other customers.

"The question is reduce the number of surfaces or incidents where the virus is transmitted, and this is just another surface," he said.

Both Fong and Grant said that grocery store employees have no way of knowing whether a person has sterilized their bags in between uses.

"We don't know because there's no way to police that," Fong said.

Because of the increased volume of business, grocery stores have been running short on both paper and reusable plastic bags, he said.

"We can't get them to stores fast enough," Fong said.

Fong said that customers are not required to use bags, that they can also put their purchased items back in the cart and transport them directly to their vehicle.

"That's actually preferable to us," Fong said.

### Healthy Living

## Think purple

Purple berries contain antioxidants called anthocyanins, which have anti-inflammatory properties that can protect blood vessels.

### The darker the berry

... The higher its anthocyanin content; here are some to choose

- Blackberries (shown here)
- Black currant
- Chokeberry
- Elderberry
- Gooseberry



Source: Nutrition  
Science News;  
TNS Photo Service



# Life & Style

## Union files complaint against NBC, 'America's Got Talent'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Gabrielle Union filed a complaint Thursday with the state of California against NBC and the producers of "America's Got Talent," the latest move in a fight over her allegations that she was fired for objecting to an on-set environment that tolerated racism.

The complaint filed with the

Department of Fair Employment and Housing says Union was harassed and discriminated against because of her race, and experienced retaliation for reporting these problems.

The document enumerates previously reported issues that Union, who is black, had with the show's acceptance of racist jokes and remarks from judges,

and cites criticism she received about her hair during tapings.

"Union, a black woman, was singled out due to her physical appearance and discriminated against by NBC due to the fact that her



Union

hair did not fit within the white image that NBC apparently sought to convey to the audience of AGT," the complaint states, adding that a network executive and a show producer "informed Union's manager that her hair was 'too wild' and that

it needed to be 'toned down.'"

The complaint also contains new allegations that NBC Entertainment Chairman Paul Telegdy called Union's agents to issue unspecified threats, shared confidential information on the controversy with celebrities that the show was looking to hire and sought to undermine an investigation of Union's issues.

"The allegation that anyone involved in this process threatened Ms. Union is categorically untrue," the network's parent company NBCUniversal said in a statement. "We took Ms. Union's concerns seriously, and engaged an outside investigator who found an overarching culture of diversity on the show."

## Philadelphia editor resigns over 'Buildings Matter' headline

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The Philadelphia Inquirer's top editor is resigning after an uproar over a headline lamenting damage to businesses amid turbulent protests denouncing police brutality against people of color, the paper announced Saturday.

The newspaper said Stan Wischnowski, 58, was stepping down as senior vice president and executive editor.

The Inquirer had apologized for a "horribly wrong" decision to use the headline, "Buildings Matter, Too," on a column Tuesday about looting

and vandalism on the margins of protests of George Floyd's death in Minneapolis at the hands of a white police officer.

The backlash came as The

New York Times was widely criticized for publishing an opinion piece by U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton advocating the use of federal troops to quell

the protests.

About 30 members of the Inquirer's 210-member editorial staff called in sick earlier this week, and black staff members angrily condemned the headline. It appeared

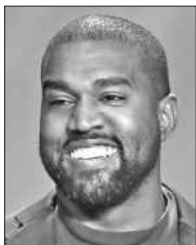
over an article by architecture critic Inga Saffron, who worried that buildings damaged in violence over the past week could "leave a gaping hole in the heart of Philadelphia."

## Kanye West attends Chicago protest, donates \$2M to victims

Kanye West has donated \$2 million to support the families and legal teams for George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor.

A representative for the rapper confirmed that some of the money donated would fully cover college tuition costs for Floyd's 6-year-old daughter, Gianna. Floyd died last month after a Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee on his neck for more than eight minutes as he pleaded for air.

Donations were also made to the legal teams of Arbery, who was gunned down while jogging in Georgia in February, and Taylor, who was killed in her home in Louisville in March. Friday would have been Taylor's 27th birthday.



West

West marched with protesters in his hometown of Chicago on Thursday night.

Largely peaceful protests following the deaths of Floyd, Taylor and Arbery have led to outbreaks of violence in many large cities. (AP)

## Sheriff: Will of 'Tiger King' star's missing husband forged

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Someone forged the will of the missing husband of Carole Baskin, a woman prominently featured in Netflix's "Tiger King" documentary series, a Florida sheriff said.

Hillsborough County Sheriff Chad Chronister told 10 Tampa Bay on Tues-

day that two experts had confirmed the will of Jack "Don" Lewis is a forgery. Lewis disappeared in 1997 and was declared dead in 2002. The millionaire's will left most of his estate, including a private Tampa zoo that would eventually become Big Cat Rescue animal

sanctuary, to Baskin, cutting out his children from a previous marriage.

Criminal charges aren't expected because the statute of limitations has expired, Chronister said.

"The will had already been executed at that point," Chronister said. "But, it certainly

cast another shadow of suspicion, by all means."

Lewis's disappearance remains an open case. In March, Chronister announced that the sheriff's office was seeking new leads following the popularity of Netflix's "Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness."

## Prince William reveals he's been a helpline volunteer

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prince William has revealed that he has been anonymously helping out on a crisis helpline during the coronavirus lockdown.

The Duke of Cambridge's work with Shout 85258—an around-the-clock text messaging helpline developed by the Royal Foundation—was

made public to mark Volunteers Week.

Last month, he told fellow volunteers in a video call that was shared on social media late Friday: "I'm going to share a little secret with you guys, but I'm actually on the

platform volunteering."

William, who is second in line to the throne, is one of more than 2,000 volunteers who have been formally trained to help those in need.

More than 300,000 text con-

versations have taken place between volunteers and people needing mental health support, with around 65% of those texting aged under 25.

William's wife, the Duchess of Cambridge, has also been helping others by taking part in "check in and chat" calls with people self-isolating or vulnerable during the pandemic.



Prince William

## Roommate's drunken fights begin to wear renter down

DEAR ABBY: My roommate owns the house. His girlfriend and her two children are over here all day, every day. I have my own living room, office and bedroom, and we share the kitchen and bathroom.

I'm clean and respectful and try to mind my own business. The problem is, neither of them work. They drink heavily every day and then scream and fight for hours. Since COVID-19, they have been drinking even more and fighting constantly. Sometimes it gets physical.

My roommate is a verbally abusive drunk, and his girlfriend threatens to leave when he starts abusing her kids, but doesn't follow through. I have intervened a couple of times on behalf of the children, but there's only so much I can do.

Lately, they've been screaming at the top of their lungs about me. I work from home and often customers on the phone hear them drop F-bomb after F-bomb. I'm afraid their behavior will lead to me losing my job. They're also up until 2 or 3 a.m. every night fighting, which keeps me from sleeping (even with earplugs).

I'm completely stressed out and starting to get depressed. I'm not sure what to do. I have limited funds, so moving would be difficult. I'm wondering if you have any suggestions so I can weather the storm.

BAD SITUATION IN UTAH

DEAR BAD SITUATION: This storm isn't going to end. I feel for the children whose mother doesn't protect them from her abusive boyfriend. The result will be they will think they deserve the mistreatment they are receiving,

which may affect them for the rest of their lives.

I am not sure there is a way to "weather" the storm. Because these addicts cannot control their behavior, and it is affecting the way your clients perceive you, it would be better to get out of there. If possible, go live temporarily with a friend or relative until you find affordable alternative living quarters. Your job may depend on it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law "Hannah" told one of my children that she is sorry she married my son. He does not know. They are both young adults.

Hannah and her mother had pushed for the marriage. She even bought her wedding dress before he proposed. My son loves her. He is special-needs, lower IQ and gullible.

What do I do with this information? It will hurt him, but I don't want him wasting years married to someone who doesn't love him. He deserves better than that.

SAD MOM IN FLORIDA

DEAR SAD MOM: Your son needs to know what Hannah has been saying and receive as much support from the family as possible. I think the news should come from the person in whom Hannah confided rather than from you, which could be perceived as meddling. This should also be discussed with an attorney. I hope you will do it soon, before there are children involved.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: On May 3, you responded to a cancer patient about what to say to those who bring up her cancer. What do

## DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



you recommend to readers whose good friends disclose their cancer for the first time? What can be said that shows concern, understanding and being supportive?

AT A LOSS FOR WORDS

DEAR AT A LOSS: I will share what I have said to people I care about when told of their diagnosis. I hope it will guide you. I tell the person I am sorry to hear the person is having to fight that battle, that I will mention him or her in my prayers until remission is accomplished, and offer whatever emotional support the person is willing to accept from me. And then I follow through.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



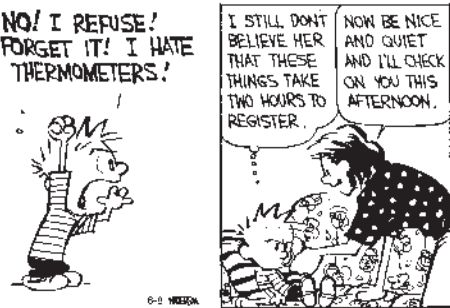
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

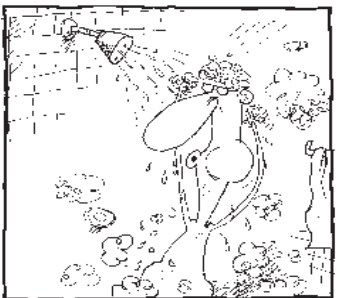
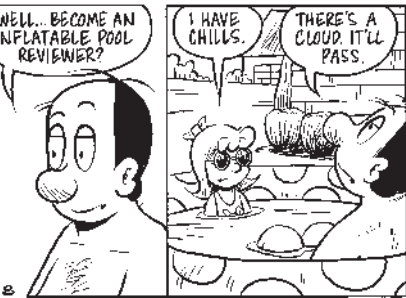
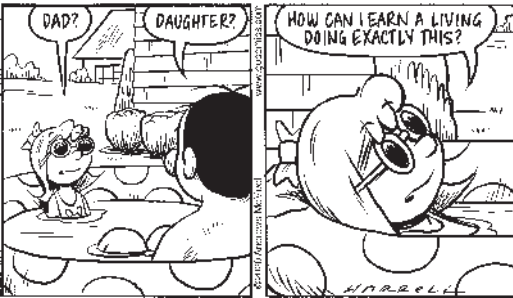


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Resort 4 Köln cry 7 "The Lion King" lioness 11 Reed and Rawls 13 Jr.'s son 14 Actor Clive 15 Pakistani language 16 British rule of India 17 Hot 18 Royal authority 20 Honolulu's isle 22 — Lingus 24 Breakfast rolls 28 "The Flintstones" city 32 Gymnast Comanec 33 Monumental 34 Be sick 36 Eyeglass frames 37 Man of morals?

39 Campaign events 41 Explorer Hemando 43 Timetable abbr. 44 Hoopster Malone 46 Milk dispenser 50 "Star Wars" knight 53 MSN alternative 55 Fashion magazine 56 A 57 — chi 58 Firsties 59 Tiny amounts 60 Newt 61 Cistern

DOWN 1 Disparaging remark 2 Skin opening 3 German car name 4 Melody 5 Pisa farewell 6 Muslim woman's garment 7 Fruit juice specification, at times 8 Shock partner 9 Superman foe Luthor 10 Whatever number 12 Sweet bakery buys 45 Challah unit 47 554, to Cato 48 Exile isle 49 Take five 50 Lustrous black 51 Historic time 52 Carried out 54 Set afire

Solution time: 26 mins.

Last Friday's Answer 06/08

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Maria Menounos, 42; Kanye West, 43; Julianna Margulies, 54; Keenen Ivory Wayans, 62.

Happy Birthday: Revisit how you want to structure your life as you move forward. Picking up knowledge and skills that will help you find a better position or encourage you to head in a direction that offers greater potential is favored. Your memory will serve you well when dealing with situations that can influence your position, reputation and prospects. Your numbers are 2, 8, 17, 21, 26, 34, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Rely on your ability to take hold of a situation and turn it into something advantageous. Don't sit back and wait; use your skills to outmaneuver someone who is pressuring you to do something you don't want to do. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): An opportunity will grab your attention. Do whatever it takes to learn and to apply your skills to fit the qualifications necessary to up your game. Make a move that will surprise others and position you for advancements. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Push harder for what you want. Pursuing the necessary research will encourage you to take on something that excites you. Personal goals are within reach if you believe and trust in your ability to finish what you start. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for alternative ways to solve a work-related problem. Modify how you have handled matters in the past to fit trends. It's how you go about doing things that will help you stand out.

Don't leave anything to chance. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't make an unnecessary change. Work with what you already have, and you will save money and get things done on time. Showing off won't bring the returns you want, but living up to your reputation and promises will. Self-improvement is encouraged. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A steady pace will help you bypass an argumentative situation. Stick to what you know and do best, and don't let anyone bait you into sharing your personal opinions. If you want to advance, keep politics and religion out of your conversations. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put more effort into honing your skills and making sure that you are presenting who you are and what you can do in the best way possible. Don't exaggerate or make unrealistic promises. If you take something on, finish what you start. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use experience and your intuition to help you make the right decision. Don't feel you have to contribute money to something that eludes you. Invest in something you want to pursue, not someone else's dream. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Confusion will set in if you are gullible or make premature assumptions about someone. Take the time to find out exactly what's going on before you say something you will regret. Evaluate how you feel about someone before you share your intentions. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Think matters through, and put your plans in motion. A positive change at home will add to your comfort and convenience. Handle situations with peers and partners intelligently, and you will get your way. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An adjustment at home will make a difference to how well you take care of yourself physically and emotionally. Don't give in to someone pressuring you to make a change that will jeopardize your health or well-being. Say no to indulgent behavior. ★★★

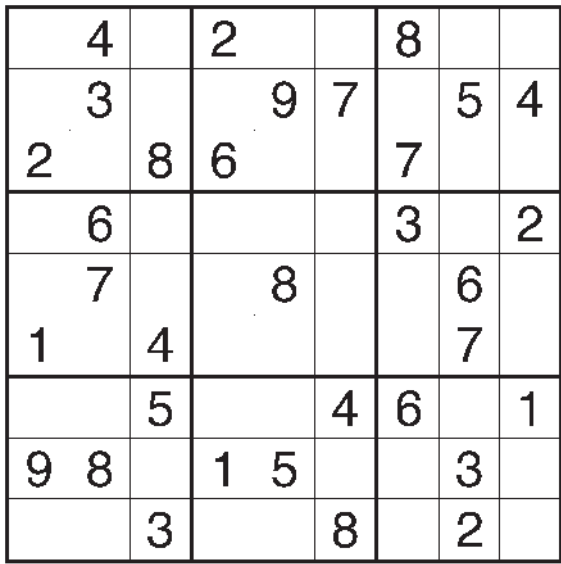
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Diversify, and you will find a unique way to use your skills and talents to get things done on time. Someone will be jealous of your accomplishments and the attention you receive. Include everyone in your success in order to avoid opposition. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, imaginative and proactive. You are flexible and alert. Visit [Eugenialast.com](http://Eugenialast.com), or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

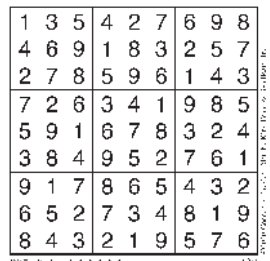
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★ 6/08 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

THE SMELL OF SPRING Solution: 9 letters

S F E R U T A N N O S A E S S  
E L T N E C S H S E R F O P S  
C O A S E L U C E L O M M E A  
Y W T C E M O I S T O U E T R  
M E E C I V L I O S D R L E G  
O R C D A M A G Y H T R A E S  
T S A W W R E E F Y U O B W P  
P K A A C O B H L D O L R S I  
E L R R S H R O C O O T R M C  
R A A M O C R G N O N Y O W Y  
T W I E V I L A M W I W D O T  
S N N R E R U T X I M M O R I  
H S A W E T S E I R O M E M U  
R E H T A E W S R E W O H S R  
S T N A L P E C N A R G A R F

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Acetate, Alive, Bloom, Carbon, Dump, Earthy, Flowers, Fragrance, Fresh, Fruity, Geosmin, Grass, Grow, Humid, Leaves, Memories, Mixture, Moist, Molecules, Mown, Nature, Odor, Outdoors, Petrichor, Plants, Rain, Scent, Season, Semiochemicals, Showers, Soil, Spicy, Storm, Streptomyces, Sweet, Trees, Walks, Warmer, Wash, Weather, Wet, Woody, Worms  
Last Friday's Answer: Wall Street  
To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com), or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



# NBA offers clarity on tiebreakers



**MIAMI (AP)**—The NBA has told teams that playoff seeding will be based on winning percentage, and that any tiebreakers necessary after that will follow the usual procedures.

It was an issue that needed clarity because the 22 teams that will be going to the Disney complex near Orlando, Florida, for the planned resumption of the season next month will not have played the same number of games.

The NBA told teams of the plan for utilizing tiebreakers in a memo late Friday.

Based on the league plan for the restart, with games starting again in late July, Dallas will end up playing an NBA-high 75 contests. Most others will play between 72 and 74; the low total will be 71, which San Antonio and the Los Angeles Lakers will finish at if

the NBA's plans for teams to play eight games at the Disney complex before the playoffs begin comes to fruition.

The NBA has not yet revealed how team schedules will be adjusted once play resumes without Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Golden State, Minnesota and New York taking part in the remainder of the 2019-20 season.

There are some playoff races that are particularly close and where the teams involved will end up playing a different number of games.

In the East, Brooklyn and Orlando are separated by a half-game and the Nets will end up with one less game than the Magic.

In the West, four teams—Portland, New Orleans, Sacramento and San Antonio—

are all separated by a half-game in the race for ninth place and potentially a berth

## McGregor retiring again

**LAS VEGAS (AP)**—Conor McGregor is apparently calling it a career.

The famed Irish fighter, just minutes after Amanda Nunes' dominant win over Felicia Spencer at UFC 250, announced his retirement on Twitter on Saturday night.

"Hey guys I've decided to retire from fighting," he wrote. "Thank you all for the amazing memories! What a ride it's been! Here is a picture of myself and my mother in Las Vegas post one of my world title wins! Pick the home of your dreams Mags I love you! Whatever you desire it's yours."

UFC president Dana White said he hadn't talked with McGregor before his tweet, and that someone had shown him the retirement announcement for the first time after it was live.

While it may have shocked some of the sports world, White wasn't that surprised.

"That's Conor," White said after UFC 250 in Las Vegas. "You know how Conor works. That's how he does things."

Given the current state of the world—with the COVID-19 pandemic still raging and massive protests and riots taking place in cities across the country after George Floyd's death in Minnesota late last month—he said he understands why McGregor might want to call it, too.

"If these guys want to sit out and retire right now or anybody feels uncomfort-

able in any way, shape or form with what's going on, you don't have to fight. It is all good," White said. "So if that's what Conor's feeling right now ... I feel ya."

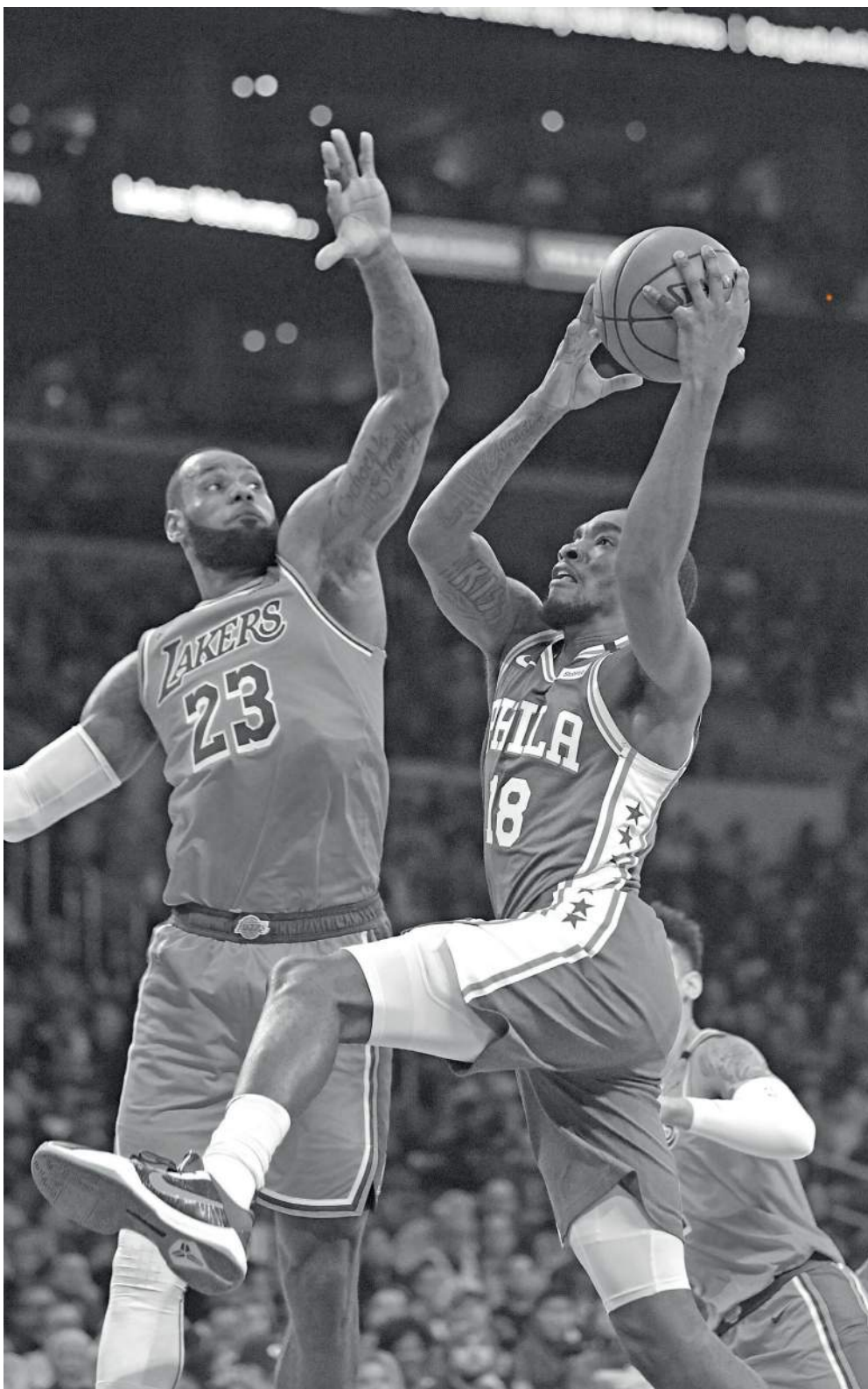
"It's not like I'm going, 'Holy s--t, this is crazy. This is nuts.' Nothing is crazy and nuts right now because everything is crazy and nuts right now. So, on a certain level, I totally understand it and get it."

McGregor is fresh off his win against Donald "Cowboy" Cerrone at UFC 249 in January, when he knocked Cerrone out in just 40 seconds. He's been very vocal about wanting a rematch against lightweight champion Khabib Nurmagomedov, and even accepted Anderson Silva's challenge for a superfight late last month.

He's also called out Justin Gaethje—who beat Tony Ferguson with a fifth-round TKO at UFC 249 to claim the interim lightweight title last month—and said he'd "butcher" him in the Octagon, though Gaethje wasn't having it.

If his retirement is for real, he'll finish his career with a 22-4 overall record. He's done this before, however, retiring and then seemingly un-retiring in a series of tweets in 2019 amid a phone smashing incident and sexual assault investigation. He did it in 2016, too, with a simple tweet ending in "catch ya's later."

Only time will tell if this one sticks. (NBC)



**AP**  
In this March 3, 2020 file photo, Philadelphia 76ers guard Shake Milton, right, drives against Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James during the second half of an NBA game in Los Angeles.

tially a bigger purpose as well.

Many players and coaches have spoken out in recent days following the death of George Floyd, who died after a Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee into his neck for several minutes even after he stopped moving and pleading for air. But two coaches said Saturday that once the league arrives at Disney, they would expect the NBA's visibility to be an asset again in the hope for actual change.

"I don't think anybody is really ready to move on. And we shouldn't," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. "If anything, many times before, so tragically, there would be a similar incident of social injustice like this and then two weeks later people forget about it. This will be an opportunity for the entire association to land in one spot ... to keep this conversation going and use our platform to make sure that this doesn't go away."

Spoelstra said he's had numerous talks with other head coaches and some players in recent days about the best path the NBA could take next.

Orlando coach Steve Clifford also seems convinced that the league's players and coaches will take some sort of action when the season resumes.

"I don't think there's any question," Clifford said. "I think everybody's priority right now and hope is that we can all be part of the change that's so necessary in our country. We'll have a collective platform where everyone can collectively send a message condemning racism, racial injustice, calling for police accountability. There will be a platform and I think we're all thinking that way."

Many of the league's biggest names have used social media to condemn police brutality and racial injustice, and some NBA players have also appeared at demonstrations and marches around the nation in recent days.

The National Basketball Coaches Association has also said that it will work collectively to find answers and determine the best courses of action. It has not said if it has made any specific decisions yet, though said it intends to work with "local leaders, officials and law enforcement agencies" in NBA cities to influence change.

in a play-in series. The gap between those four teams is .010 percentage points, and the Trail Blazers will play 74 games, the Pelicans and Kings will both play 72 and the Spurs 71.

Typically, NBA teams play 82 games—which wasn't possible this season because of the coronavirus pandemic and the suspension of the season on March 11.

This will be the first season in which NBA teams play an uneven number of games since 2012-13, when a game between the Boston Celtics and Indiana Pacers was canceled in response to the Boston Marathon bombing. The Celtics and Pacers finished at 81 games, though that did not have any impact on playoff seeding that season.

### COVID-19 testing

The move to agree on a 22-team format for the resumption of the pandemic-interrupted season is a major step

forward, but it was just the first of many major decisions that has to be completed before the league moves into the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex at the Disney campus near Orlando next month.

Another step was completed Friday as expected when the representatives from the National Basketball Players Association voted to unanimously approve the proposal that the NBA's Board of Governors approved a day earlier.

More talks and negotiations are scheduled for the coming days to work out everything else, and it is a sizable list. A look at some of the other issues facing the league.

The format was significant, but not the biggest hurdle for the NBA to clear in this process. That one, by far, is testing. The medical protocols are the most critical part of the return-to-play plan.

The league and the players know they must go above and beyond in the interest of safe-

ty. The protocols are the key—players will have to practice social distancing when they aren't playing, plus submit to a quarantine at the beginning of the time at Disney and likely daily testing for the entirety of their stay there.

Players and coaches likely won't even be able to have their families at Disney until September, at the earliest.

A person with direct knowledge of the talks said the NBA and NBPA have been working on what will be lengthy protocols—which, among other things, will explain what happens when a player or coach tests positive while at the Disney complex.

### 'Use our platform'

The NBA plans to go to Disney World next month to finish a season, with a schedule calling for the 22 remaining teams to play more than 150 more games and for the league to eventually crown a champion.

Coaches are seeing poten-



# MLB plan saves big-spending teams \$100M each



NEW YORK  
(AP)—The  
New York

Yankees, Houston Astros and Los Angeles Dodgers would each save more than \$100 million on player salaries as part of management's proposal to start the coronavirus-delayed season than they would under the union's plan, according to an analysis by The Associated Press.

Top stars accustomed to eye-popping salaries that set them apart from mere All-Stars would experience by far the steepest cuts. Set to earn \$36 million each, Mike Trout and Gerrit Cole would get \$25.3 million under the union's plan and a base of \$5.6 million under the teams' proposal, with the chance to get back to about \$8 million if the postseason is played. A rookie at the minimum would get \$396,537 from the union plan and \$256,706 from the MLB proposal—not much more than the \$222,222 per game Trout and Cole originally were slated to earn.

The Yankees project to pay \$155 million to players under the union's plan, according to the AP analysis based on frozen March 28 rosters, and spend \$48 million on salary under management's proposal. The Astros drop from \$149 million to \$46 million and the Dodgers from \$147 million to \$46 million.

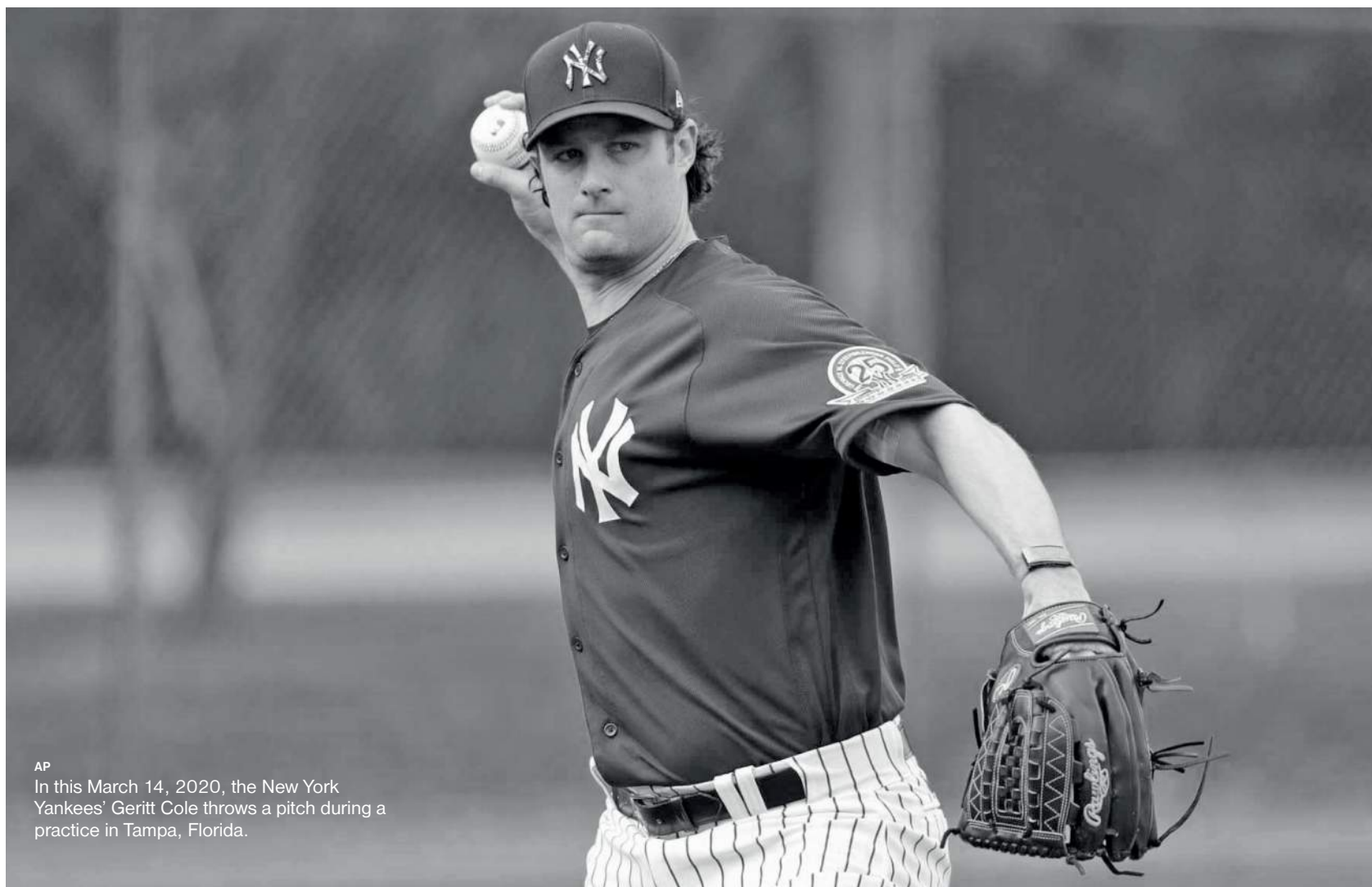
Lower-spending teams save, too, but not nearly as much because their starting points are lower. Miami is at \$33 million under the union's plan and \$16 million under MLB's. Pittsburgh's salaries would drop from \$36 million to \$17 million and Baltimore's from \$43 million to \$18 million.

Players agreed on March 26 to accept prorated shares of their salaries during a shortened season, part of a deal that guaranteed \$170 million in advances and service time even if the season is scrapped. More than 100 players gathered for a digital meeting Thursday and reaffirmed their stance against additional cuts.

A player with a \$20 million salary, like St. Louis All-Star catcher Yadier Molina, would be guaranteed just below \$4 million under the MLB plan and about \$14.1 million under the union plan. Tampa Bay pitcher Charlie Morton's \$15 million salary would be cut to a \$3.2 million base under the MLB plan and \$10.6 million under the MLB proposal.

Philadelphia catcher J.T. Realmuto's \$10 million salary would drop to a \$2.4 million base as part of the MLB proposal and to \$7 million under the union plan.

Milwaukee pitcher Brett



AP  
In this March 14, 2020, the New York Yankees' Gerrit Cole throws a pitch during a practice in Tampa, Florida.

Anderson would fall from \$5 million to \$1.4 million in MLB's plan and to \$3.5 million in the union's formula.

"Interesting strategy of making the best most marketable players potentially look like the bad guys," Anderson tweeted after MLB made its proposal.

Salaries for the 899 players on big league rosters and injured lists at the time spring training stopped total about \$2.7 billion under the union's plan and approximately \$950 million in management's proposal. The sides estimate salaries for all 40-man roster players would add to \$2.8 billion in the union's plan and \$1.2 billion in management's proposal, not including a \$200 million postseason bonus pool MLB proposed.

MLB and the union have been making plans to start the season next month in ballparks without fans, and teams say they will sustain huge losses. In response to the union's stance, MLB is considering proposing a much shorter schedule, perhaps 50 games or fewer.

The pandemic-induced stoppage has wrecked baseball's finances. MLB says that by playing in empty ballparks, teams would combine to lose \$640,000 for each additional regular-season game.

Teams also say they fear extending play deep into the fall, as the union proposes, would risk a second wave of the coronavirus that would prevent the postseason from being played.

Both sides have said they

hope to start the season around the beginning of July, and talks may intensify next week. Some on the players' side fear teams may attempt to implement a relatively short schedule, which could provoke the threat of a grievance and to play while seeking money damages.

The AP study looked solely at 2020 salaries and did not include prorated shares of signing bonuses, which are guaranteed when a contract is signed and approved by the commissioner's office.

MLB offered a six-tier sliding scale of cuts starting at 10% and rising to 90% for the amounts of salaries above \$10 million, followed by prorating based on an 82-game season. Players proposed prorating for a 114-game regular season schedule stretching through October.

## 'Depriving America of baseball games'

Players accused teams of "depriving America of baseball games" as part of a money fight set off by the coronavirus pandemic and raised the possibility baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred might push ahead with a shortened season over the union's objection.

Bruce Meyer, the union's chief negotiator, sent a letter to Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem on Friday threatening that an attempt to play without an agreement could lead players to block any attempt to expand the playoffs and deny consent to neutral-site games in the postseason.

"The league's cynical tactic

of depriving America of baseball games in furtherance of their demand for unwarranted salary concessions is shortsighted and troubling," Meyer wrote. "Meanwhile, other leagues are moving forward with their plans for resumption."

"We are disappointed that you are purportedly shutting down negotiations after making one proposal demanding over \$800 million in further pay cuts," Meyer wrote. "We reject your invitation at the end of the letter to negotiate against ourselves. We are similarly chagrined by your decision to carry through on Rob's threat from last Sunday to intentionally play as few games as possible unless players agree to your demand for pay cuts."

MLB has proposed expanding the playoffs from 10 teams to 14, which would create at least six new games with broadcast rights to sell. The union offered to agree to a playoff expansion through 2021.

Both sides have said they hope to start the season around the beginning of July, and talks may intensify next week.

"The league needs to tell us immediately when it plans to start the season if it plans to do so unilaterally," Meyer wrote. "We assume the league understands that in the event of a unilateral implementation of a season by MLB there are numerous aspects of a season that the players association will not be under any obligation to agree to, most notably any changes to the existing

playoff structure and the locations of playoff games. If you intend to seek the players' agreement to any such changes, we suggest that you raise them expeditiously."

Halem had written to the union on Wednesday that "we do not have any reason to believe that a negotiated solution for an 82-game season is

possible."

"The commissioner is committed to playing baseball in 2020," he added. "He has started discussions with ownership about staging a shorter season without fans. Assuming that those discussions go well, we will notify you at the appropriate time of our intentions."

## Colonial attracts Top 5 players



TEXAS (AP)—The PGA Tour returns after three months, and some of its biggest stars are ready to play.

The 148-man field for the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial features the top five in the world—Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm, Brooks Koepka, Justin Thomas and Dustin Johnson.

The biggest name—Tiger Woods—chose not to play. Woods has only played Colonial once, in 1997, when he was going for his third straight victory and shot 72 in the final round to finish three shots behind.

The tour shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the rest of sports, after the opening round of The Players Championship on March 12.

The return requires players to be tested for the coronavirus upon arrival and, for those taking a charter to the next tournament at Hilton Head, another test before

they leave. They also will have daily thermal readings and health questionnaires. That also applies to caddies and what the tour deems essential personnel.

The field features 18 of the Top 25 in the world, giving it a strength-of-field comparable to a World Golf Championship.

The only players from the top 10 who are not playing are Adam Scott, Patrick Cantlay and Tommy Fleetwood. Scott and Fleetwood live overseas and would have faced a 14-day quarantine upon arrival.

Cantlay has played Colonial only twice, including his rookie year in 2013 when he first felt a jolt of pain in his back that kept him out of golf for nearly three years.

The tour returns, if all goes according to plan, to a full schedule for the rest of the year. Colonial marks the first of 27 tournaments over a 26-week period through Dec. 6. That schedule includes three majors.



# Kap has more support now, still long way to go



**NEW YORK**

(AP)—When Colin Kaepernick took a knee during the national anthem

to take a stand against police brutality and racial injustice in 2016, he was mostly alone.

Politicians, team owners and fellow players criticized him, fans burned his jersey, and he was booed even at home. Four years later, his protest is widely viewed as prescient.

Even NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell apologized to players for not listening to them earlier and encouraged them to protest peacefully.

“We, the National Football League, condemn racism and the systematic oppression of black people,” Goodell said in a video released Friday. “We, the National Football League, admit we were wrong for not listening to NFL players earlier and encourage all to speak out and peacefully protest. We, the National Football League, believe black lives matter. I personally protest with you and want to be part of the much needed change in this country.”

Global opinion has shifted so much that more people are now vilifying those who attack Kaepernick or misrepresent his stance.

New Orleans Saints star quarterback Drew Brees issued a public apology Thursday after he was excoriated by teammates, other athletes



and fans for saying he “will never agree with anybody disrespecting the flag of the United States.”

That sentiment has been voiced loudly by Kaepernick’s critics and President Donald Trump reiterated it Friday, saying on Twitter: “I am a big fan of Drew Brees. I think he’s truly one of the greatest quarterbacks, but he should not have taken back his original stance on honoring our magnificent American flag. OLD GLORY is to be revered, cherished, and flown high... We

should be standing up straight and tall, ideally with a salute, or a hand on heart. There are other things you can protest, but not our Great American Flag—NO KNEELING!”

Brees responded on social media in a post addressed to the president’s Twitter handle.

“Through my ongoing conversations with friends, teammates, and leaders in the black community, I realize this is not an issue about the American flag. It has never been,” Brees wrote. “We can no longer use the flag to turn

people away or distract them from the real issues that face our black communities.

“We did this back in 2017, and regrettably I brought it back with my comments this week. We must stop talking about the flag and shift our attention to the real issues of systemic racial injustice, economic oppression, police brutality, and judicial & prison reform. We are at a critical juncture in our nation’s history! If not now, then when?”

“We as a white community need to listen and learn from

the pain and suffering of our black communities. We must acknowledge the problems, identify the solutions, and then put this into action. The black community cannot do it alone. This will require all of us.”

George Floyd’s death, which ignited nationwide protests over racial injustice and police brutality, awakened many people to the root of the issues that led to Kaepernick’s peaceful demonstration—an expression meant to raise awareness of such issues, not demean the flag or

In this Oct. 2, 2016, file photo, from left, San Francisco 49ers outside linebacker Eli Harold, quarterback Colin Kaepernick and safety Eric Reid kneel during the national anthem before an NFL game against the Dallas Cowboys in Santa Clara, Calif.

the anthem. The 32-year-old Kaepernick hasn’t played in the NFL since 2016.

“The protest is really trying to hold us accountable for the things we say we believe in. It’s about equality and justice for all,” said Houston Texans wide receiver Kenny Stills, who has been taking a knee since Week 1 of the 2016 season.

This week, San Francisco 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan said Kaepernick deserves respect and admiration for starting the protest. Seattle Seahawks coach Pete Carroll praised him for his courage and sacrificing his career. Hall of Fame coach Tony Dungy compared Kaepernick to Muhammad Ali.

“There’s a lot of parallels between Colin and my father,” said Ali’s daughter, Khaliah. “He stands 100 percent with integrity no matter the cost. He made an unwavering commitment for the betterment of his people and took an unapologetic stance against injustice. I have had many people attempt to discourage our support of Colin, which is unthinkable to me. He is a friend to our family, he is loved and honored.”

## GAMES

From Page 20

in the Pacific Mini Games. The CNMI-hosted Pacific Mini Games is originally set for next year, but the CNMI Pacific Mini Games Oversight Committee has proposed to move the event to Summer of 2022. The new date is in response to Pacific

Games Council’s request to the Commonwealth to consider making changes with the dates for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games to avoid conflict with the Tokyo Olympic Games next year.

Revision in the schedule of all these major sporting events have to be made due to the COVID-19 pandemic that caught the world off guard late

in 2019. The domino effect continues, as moving the 2022 Micro Games would also impact the next Pacific Games.

“Moving the Games (Micro) to 2023 will also possess a schedule conflict as the Pacific Games is slated for the same year,” Miranda said.

The 2023 Pacific Games will take place in Honiara, Solomon Islands and be-

cause of the coronavirus pandemic delays in the construction of the facilities for the event are expected.

As for the Pacific Mini Games on Saipan, the Oleai Sports Complex has yet to undergo its scheduled major improvement due to the crisis. The facility sustained significant damage from two super typhoons and early this

year, some improvement project was set to start, but COVID-19 came and the sports complex had to be closed.

Moving the Mini Games to 2022 will give organizers and the government more time to prepare for the event while focusing their resources now to battling the spread of COVID-19.

Athletics, baseball, bad-

minton, golf, triathlon, and beach volleyball are on the initial list of sports proposed for the Mini Games. There is also a suggestion to add tennis and weightlifting, while the Northern Marianas National Paddling Sports Federation also wishes to have canoe in the quadrennial event that the CNMI will be hosting for the first time.

## PLAY

From Page 20

what they learned from coach Kambe and Seki. I knew it was very challenging for them back then because of the lack of players and the proper facility,” Mita said.

Kambe coached a bunch of recreational players in the women’s national team and have them train either at the Oleai Sports Complex or CPA Airport field, which had ruts and unkept grass back then. Sekiguchi, on the other hand, remembered handling the national men’s team that had about 10 players older than him before having a few young players in his last year with the NMIFA.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this file photo, former CNMI National Team coach Sugao Kambe, third right front row, poses with CNMI players and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association officials after their game in an East Asian Football Federation tournament in Guam in 2009.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this file photo, former CNMI National Team coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi answers questions during a press conference in an Asian Football Confederation event in 2016.





NBA offers  
clarity on  
tiebreakers

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

MLB plan saves  
big-spending  
teams \$100M  
each

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Play and play some more

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Hearing news that CNMI players are competing off-island always brings a smile to the faces of former national team coaches Sugao Kambe and Kiyoshi Sekiguchi.

Kambe and Sekiguchi joined Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director and CNMI head coach Michiteru Mita on *Footcast with Norman* last Saturday and discussed their time with the national squads and how they are pleased with the progress of soccer on the islands.

“One key to development is to have players play in higher-level competition. In the CNMI, after high school, where will the players go? If they could play in college or any competition outside Saipan, that’s good for development, especially for the national squad, as these play-

ers could come back and play for the team,” said Sekiguchi, who called the shots for the CNMI national teams in 2010-2011 and from 2014 to 2016 after Kambe left.

“I remember seeing Patty’s (Coleman) daughter (Guine) when I coached the women’s national team. She’s a good player and I am very happy to hear that she will play college soccer,” said Kambe, who had a brief stint with the CNMI national team as he coached the group in 2009.

Guine Borja is among the growing list of Commonwealth players who are given the opportunity to play in the collegiate ranks. She will



TENORIO



BORJA

## No discussions yet for 2022 Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The Micronesian Games Council has yet to hold discussion about the potential conflict of schedule of the 2022 Micronesian Games with other major events in the region.

“As of now, there have been no discussions or plans on moving the dates of the Micronesian Games (2022),” MGC secretary general Joey Miranda III said.

The Marshall Islands will be hosting the Micro Games in 2022 and based on its winning bid announced in 2018

during the quadrennial event held in Yap, the proposed date (two-week period) is between July 10 and Aug. 6.

The suggested schedule may present challenges to the participating countries, which are also competing

**See GAMES on Page 19**

suit up for Navarro College in Texas this Fall season. Also playing in the collegiate level are Sunjoon Tenorio, Dai Podziewski, Enrico del Rosario, Joshua Abragan, Ryu Tanzawa, Chris Aninzo, Gabrielle Race, James Ermitanio, Albert Bergancia, and Jherico Tiamzon.

Mita, who took over the coaching post from Sekiguchi in 2017, hopes that being able to continue their study and

play soccer at the same time will give CNMI players the motivation to stay in the sport.

“When we encourage players to play, the next challenge is to keep them playing, and motivate them to stay in the program. So, when you present them with opportunities (like earning athletic scholarships) through the sport of soccer, they and their parents will have motivation,” Mita said.

“We can have a stronger

national team if we have consistency and our players keep on playing even after leaving the island,” the current head coach added.

Mita, meanwhile thanked both Kambe and Sekiguchi for giving CNMI players a good foundation.

“I am lucky that by the time I took over, the players have already improved because of

**See PLAY on Page 19**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Runners compete in the 1,500m race during the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In this 2017 file photo, Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, third left, gestures during a coaching clinic at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.